

## Iraq calls on banks to free assets

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq urged foreign banks on Sunday to release its frozen assets so it could buy badly needed food and medicine and said it was taking court action against the Swiss-based Bank for International Settlements (BIS). "Security Council Resolution 687 ... permits Iraq to use its frozen assets to meet its citizens' needs for food and medicine," said the government newspaper Al Jumhuriyah, quoting a Ministry of Trade official. "We hold these banks accountable for the consequences of their persistence in freezing Iraqi assets." Iraq's assets abroad were impounded when it invaded Kuwait in 1990. Imports of food and medicine are permitted under United Nations sanctions but the blocking of oil exports leaves Iraq short of funds to pay for them. The paper said BIS had refused an Iraqi demand to free assets worth \$350 million and the Ministry of Trade and the Central Bank of Iraq were in the process of filing a suit. "BIS is violating the Security Council resolution and measures taken by the special commission," it quoted its sources as saying. "The Ministry of Trade calls on world banks and the Bank for International Settlements to free frozen Iraqi assets so they can be used to buy food and medicine."

# Jordan Times

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## Academy law returned to Law Committee

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Lower House of Parliament Sunday night debated and returned to its Law Committee amendments to the Arabic-language academy draft law, considered to be a major academic institution in the Kingdom. A two-hour debate prevailed among deputies over the maximum and minimum age of members of the academy, which is considered by some to be the equivalent of the Academie Francaise. The proposed amendment suggests that a ceiling be set at 70 years of age after which the members of the academy would be required to retire. It was proposed that the minimum age for members be set at 40. The debate exposed that bloc or party lines were very distinct and that the constituents of each group varied. The Muslim Brotherhood, the independent Islamists and the deputies who hold cabinet posts all supported that the minimum age be set at 40 and the age limit on 70 be lifted. The government proposal suggested appointing an assistant to the academy member to help overcome the frailties of age. While the bloc of three groups supported the proposal, the more liberal groupings in the House opposed them. After intensive debate the House, deputies voted to return the draft law to the Law Committee for further study.

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## Crown Prince returns home

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan returned home Sunday after a several-day visit to the United Kingdom during which he met with British Foreign Office Secretary Douglas Hurd and several senior officials. Prince Hassan's talks dealt with the latest developments in the Middle East and ways of enhancing Jordanian-British relations. The Crown Prince was received at the airport by Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Royal Court Chief Khaled Al Karaki, Chief Chamberlain Prince Raad Ben Zeid, the King's Private Chamberlain Prince Ali Ben Nayef, Public Security Department (PSD) director Major-General Fadel Ali and the British charge d'affaires in Amman.

## Israeli court jails Palestinian for life

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — A Tel Aviv court on Sunday sentenced to life imprisonment a Palestinian convicted of stabbing to death an Israeli girl last May, Israel Radio reported. Foad Abdul Ati Amran, 19, from the Nuseirat refugee camp in the occupied Gaza Strip, pleaded guilty to attacking the girl, the report said. The May stabbing touched off a series of days of anti-Arab rioting in Bar Yam and led the army to bar all Gaza workers from entering Israel for two weeks. Last month, the army demolished Amran's home, in which 12 family members lived, before Amran had been convicted of the slaying.

## Israelis allies pound Lebanese villages

NABATIYEH, Lebanon (R) — Israeli and allied gunners shelled a string of villages in South Lebanon on Sunday, starting fires but causing no casualties, security sources said. They said Israeli and Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia artillery fired more than 30 shells into a number of villages in the Iqlim Al Toufah mountain ridge, 40 kilometres south of Beirut. Shells started several fires in the area's pine forests and smoke could be seen as far as the Nabatiyeh market town.

## Britain asks Libya to clarify data

CAIRO (R) — Britain asked Libya for further information on its links with the Irish Republican Army (IRA) at a meeting between ambassadors in Cairo last Thursday, the British embassy said on Sunday. The British demand is part of a Western Campaign, backed by United Nations sanctions, to force Libya to hand over two men accused of blowing up a Pan Am airliner over the Scottish town of Lockerbie in 1988. Embassy spokesman James Sharp said Ambassador Christopher Long met Libya's ambassador to Tunisia, Abdul Ati Al Obeidi, and handed him a document asking a number of questions about information he gave on the IRA at talks in Geneva.

## Rabin unveils cabinet, will direct peace talks

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime Minister designate Yitzhak Rabin unveiled his cabinet on Sunday and took direct charge of Israel's search for peace with the Arabs. Mr. Rabin, jumping to the stage to address 1,500 central committee members of his victorious Labour Party, listed 13 cabinet nominations from his party — led by himself retaining the defence portfolio and former Prime Minister Shimon Peres becoming foreign minister.

Labour Party veteran Abraham Shohat will be finance minister. Mr. Rabin underlined his determination to focus on peace talks by brushing aside Mr. Peres and taking charge of the U.S.-brokered negotiations involving Israel, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and the Palestinians.

"I saw an importance in my serving as defence minister at the phase that autonomy talks (for Palestinians) are being conducted because I believe there is a connection between the political process and the problems in the area itself," Mr. Rabin told reporters.

Mr. Rabin said his government, ousting the Likud Party of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, would be presented for formal approval by parliament on Monday — a formality since his coalition now controls 62 of the 120 seats in the Knesset.

Mr. Rabin's agreement with his two coalition partners gave the leftist Meretz grouping three ministers and the ultra-religious

Shas part one. The cabinet totals 17 members.

Only hours before Mr. Rabin revealed his team, Mr. Shamir had told the final meeting of his cabinet his right-wing government had achieved more than any other Israeli administration.

"I seriously doubt if any government in Israel in the past has had such achievements," the 76-year-old Likud chief said in a speech carried on Israel radio. He plans to quit politics.

But Mr. Rabin, 70, told his supporters his crushing victory over Mr. Shamir in the June 23 national election had shown the public wanted change — and he pledged an overhaul of priorities.

The change or the revolution created a new atmosphere among the public — a feeling of hope, of belief that it's possible to act differently, that it can be different, that it can be better," Mr. Rabin said.

Mr. Rabin placed his highest priorities on advancing the peace talks that had stagnated under Mr. Shamir and switching resources from Jewish settlement of the occupied territories to investment in the Israeli economy.

The former army chief and defence minister said he would focus on reaching agreement on autonomy, limited self-rule, for the Palestinians under Israeli occupation. He has called for continuous talks to reach agreement within nine months.

But Mr. Rabin also said the U.S.-brokered talks would continue simultaneously with Jordan,

Syria and Lebanon. The next round of peace talks is planned for Rome but no date has been set.

Mr. Peres, the long-time rival who Mr. Rabin ousted from the Labour Party leadership earlier this year, said he would be in charge of the multi-lateral talks that are on the sidelines of the main peace negotiations. He barely smiled when he took the stage as the next foreign minister.

Mr. Rabin, former chief of staff, defence minister and prime minister, is possibly the most hawkish member of the cabinet. He was military chief of staff during the 1967 war.

Three of the 16 appointed ministers are from the left-wing Meretz bloc, one from the ultra-religious Shas party, and 12 from Labour.

Meretz would accept a Palestinian state as the solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Aryeh Deri, the interior minister from the religious Shas party, backs territorial compromise, and more than half the Labour ministers represent the party's dovish line.

As Labour leader before Mr. Rabin, Mr. Peres tumbled a cabinet led by Likud faction in March 1990, blaming the government for stalling Arab-Israeli peace talks.

Mr. Rabin, who opposed the move and who had a tough image as defence minister, will hold the defence, welfare and religious portfolios as well as the prime

(Continued on page 5)

## Ashrawi urges U.S. to stay tough on Israel

RAMALLAH, Occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi urged the United States not to ease its demand that Israel halt settlement of the occupied Arab territories after Yitzhak Rabin becomes prime minister on Monday.

"I think that many people will be so relieved that Labor is in power that they will try their best to give Labor some reward, paying with Palestinian currency," Dr. Ashrawi, spokeswoman of the Palestinian peace team, told reporters on Sunday.

Mr. Rabin's Labour Party swept Yitzhak Shamir's hardline Likud out of power after 15 years in a June 23 election, promising to curb Jewish settlement that surged under Mr. Shamir. Palestinians want a total settlement freeze.

"We told them (U.S. officials) in no uncertain terms that any peace process that can legitimise settlements ... is prejudging the final outcome and disqualifying the United States as even-handed," she said.

Dr. Ashrawi, who returned Sunday to the occupied West Bank, has been told to appear for police questioning about her meeting with Palestine Liberation

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## King stresses role of press in democracy and human rights

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein said Sunday that the responsibility of the Jordanian press in upholding human rights and pursuing the course of democracy.

The King also said Jordan and the Arab Nation were facing a fierce battle far bigger than individuals handle and its consequences would have an impact on the country and the Arab Nation, which is seeking to find a place among other nations of the world.

Speaking at a meeting at the Royal Court with the newly-elected president of the Jordan Press Association (JPA), Sulei-

(Continued on page 5)



His Majesty King Hussein meets Sunday with the President and board members of the Jordan Press Association (Petra)

## 70,000 guest workers legalised, JD 5 million collected in 40 days

By Nermeen Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Ministry of Labour legalised the status of 70,000 guest workers in the past 40 days, bringing in JD 5 million in work permit fees to the Treasury, Minister of Labour Abdul Karim Al Kabarti said Sunday.

The minister said these workers had been working in Jordan without permits for the past three years, during Labour Ministry efforts to deal with the problem.

"Earlier policies threatened these workers with expulsion and at one time we had 78,000 expulsion orders, but we were unable to locate the workers and implement the orders," Mr. Kabarti explained in an interview with the Jordan Times.

The government of Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker shifted policy on treating illegal workers by allowing them to regularise their legal status before taking any drastic measures, such as expulsion, against them.

"It became obvious that these guest workers as a labour force were needed in the Jordanian market. At the same time we had to consider the large amount of money which they owed the Treasury and find a way of collecting it," Mr. Kabarti said.

The Ministry of Labour, over and above setting a June 30 deadline for the illegal workers to comply with the legal formalities, also sent inspection teams to different sites "and we made the Jordanian employers undertake the expense of workers illegally employed by them," Mr. Kabarti said.

Despite the steps taken by the ministry, the Kingdom still suffers from a difficult formula of shortages of labourers and high unemployment among Jordanians, Mr. Kabarti said.

"We are under pressure from the agriculture and construction sectors to allow for more guest workers because of the shortages of Jordanians willing to take up such work," he pointed out.

In the agricultural sector, for exam-

ple, the ministry encourages farmers to employ schoolchildren and women living in the Jordan Valley as a way of solving the problem at least during harvest time.

The minister said that there were two factors that have to be dealt with and understood in any comprehensive approach to unemployment before any real solutions can be pursued.

One is the psychological and traditional barriers Jordanians have placed against manual labour and the other is that unless Jordan can export "Jordanian brains" outside the problem of unemployment cannot be solved.

"There cannot have real agricultural or industrial projects in the country unless they have markets to which they can export their produce," Mr. Kabarti said, adding that similarly "I cannot solve the problem of unemployment among the educated unless I can export them also."

"The facts are that the government offices and public sector companies are saturated with employees," he said.

## Curbs on pharmacy licences to be lifted

By Ayman Al Safadi  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The long waiting list for pharmacists applying for government permits to set up private drugstores is expected to vanish by the end of this week when the Ministry of Health issues new regulations easing its requirements for licensing.

Informed sources told the Jordan Times on Sunday that the ministry will lift its regulatory laws limiting the number of private pharmacies in different areas of the country and will issue licences to qualified applicants upon receiving the request.

The ministry's decision will end the lengthy and bureaucratic process that now governs the issuance of permits for private drugstores. Under the present procedures, the ministry issues permits in coordination with the Jordanian Pharmacists Association, and the decision to grant or deny the licence request depends on many factors, including the geographic area in which the

drugstore is to be located and the number of pharmacies in the area.

Denied the opportunity to open their own business, many qualified pharmacists were forced to work for meagre salaries at already established drugstores, which are protected from real market competition by regulatory government laws, according to industry sources.

A senior official at the Ministry of Health, who requested not to be named, said the ministry wanted to apply to pharmacists the same procedures it adopts in dealing with professionals in other health-related areas.

Qualified physicians, dentists and laboratory technicians are granted permits to practise in the private sector upon request and with no interference from the ministry or professional associations. The pharmaceutical field is the only heavily regulated one in the medical sector.

Ministry of Health sources say the ministry already has 400 applications for licences to start private pharmacies and that it will approve these requests when it adopts the new procedures by the end of this week.

The decision is expected to force operating drugstores, which employ pharmacists for low salaries, to raise their pay to their employees to a level that corresponds with their qualifications and face competition from a market that has yet to be allowed to grow into its full potential.

## Iraqis protest U.N. inspectors

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraqi students demonstrated against the presence of U.N. weapons inspectors outside the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation in Baghdad on Sunday, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported.

It said "student masses" staged a sit-in outside the ministry where U.N. inspectors searching for Iraq's military secrets have been locked in a standoff with the Iraqis for eight days.

The agency, quoted the chairman of the National Federation of Iraqi students, Fahd Al Shargah, as appealing to the U.N. Security Council to recall the inspectors.

On Saturday, an unidentified Iraqi set himself on fire outside the ministry. He was badly burned before being taken to hospital.

Iraq has rejected charges that it is hiding military secrets at the ministry and says allowing the inspectors into the building would infringe on its sovereignty.

Karen Jansen, the American leader of the weapons inspection team has left Iraq for New York where she will brief U.N. officials on the standoff.

The Security Council is expected to take up the matter early this week if the deadlock is not broken, U.N. officials say.

One of the students in Baghdad handed a placard that said in English, "Down with (U.S. President George) Bush and his agents who want to starve Iraq." INA reported.

Advertisement

## ANZ Grindlays Bank regional general manager Middle East

Mr. Barry McCance, ANZ Grindlays Bank Regional General Manager, Middle East arrives today in Amman on business visit for three days during which he will hold meetings with H.E. Basel Jaraneh the Minister of Finance and H.E. Dr. Michel Marto Deputy Governor Central Bank of Jordan and some other prominent businessmen in the country. He will also attend the annual Garden Reception hosted by ANZ Grindlays Bank General Manager in Jordan, Mr. Adnan Sallakh.



## A merger of interests led to surprisingly quick House endorsement of draft law on political parties

By Mariam M. Shakin  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — It was difficult to discern last week why the draft law on political parties took only two weeks to pass through in the Lower House of Parliament after holding out all promises of a summer-long debate, why almost a third of the parliamentarians did not attend the sessions, why only 53 out of 80 deputies were there when the final vote was taken and why the normally vibrant Muslim Brotherhood bloc reacted in a rather muted way in the whole debate and consequently the endorsement of the law.

The amazing speed with which the House managed to get the law passed through its ranks came as a surprise to almost everyone. House Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat

had stressed on several occasions that he hoped that the bill would undergo serious and lengthy discussions and scrutiny.

"This is a part of our future which we have to study carefully, and I urge the deputies not to hurry and to take all the time they need," he had told journalists during a press conference in early June.

Observers believe that the Brotherhood Bloc, to which Dr. Arabiyat belongs, was planning to assert its strength and push for the most favourable terms that they could get incorporated into the law.

The Brotherhood, some insiders say, was hoping that the House's Independent Islamists and possibly the left-wing and pan-Arab Democratic Bloc, would join forces with them. The three blocs could have gotten about 40 votes.

The theory was, according to one insider, those groups in Parliament with a history of political activism and organisation would join forces to get the maximum concessions out of the government and other groups.

The Brotherhood appears to have miscalculated, however. The Constitutional Bloc and the National Bloc, the two recognised pro-establishment groupings in the House, joined forces with the Independent Islamists and some members of the Democratic Bloc to form a majority during debates and voting sessions for most of the last two weeks.

The government's version of the draft law, with the exception of minor amendments, passed with flying colours.

The Brotherhood sat in relative silence and joined the pro-establishment groups and

voted in favour of most of the second half of the law.

Pan-Arab deputies backed by some leftists battled in vain against the majority to press for more liberal amendments.

In the meantime the Brotherhood did score one decisive victory by assuring their own legalisation.

### NEWS ANALYSIS

The Brotherhood's official spokesman, Ziad Abu Ghannieh, said prior to the opening of Parliament for the extraordinary session on June 21 that the group would not vote in favour of the government's version of the draft law because it would outlaw parties based on religion and thus disqualify the Brotherhood from operating as a political party in Jordan.

The draft law, as presented by the government, states that no party may be formed on the basis of religious, ethnic, gender or other forms of prejudice. Had that version of the draft law passed then the Muslim Brotherhood would not have had a chance of being licensed as a political party.

The vote on the article in question, Article 6, was tied 30-30, and was not broken until Speaker Arabiyat voted in favour of the amendment which would allow for the Brotherhood's legalisation.

The Law Committee's version — the amendment — of Article 6 differs from the government's version in that it states that there should be no prejudicial treatment of groups on the basis of religion, gender or ethnic background.

The amended version as proposed by the Law Commit-







## HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

### Royal Commission discusses renovation of holy shrines

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Commission on Jerusalem Affairs held a meeting Sunday under the chairmanship of Awwaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Izzeddine Al Khatib Al Tamimi. Members of the commission were briefed by Mr. Tamimi on Jordan's political and financial efforts to renovate the Dome of the Rock and other Muslim shrines. The Commission discussed ways of supporting Palestinians living in the occupied Jerusalem and the political and demographic dimensions of Israeli settlement activity in the holy city.

### House meeting postponed

AMMAN (Petra) — Lower House of Parliament Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat decided Sunday to postpone a House meeting scheduled for today. Dr. Arabiyat said the meeting was postponed till a date to be announced later in order to complete a report by the House's Probes Committee.

### Ashrawi

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Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Dr. Ashrawi said at her home in Ramallah that she was given a summons to report to police later this week. But she added she expected a law against meeting PLO officials to change under the new government.

"I think that Rabin has openly said that he does not care who we talk to, and I think the new government will remove that law," she said.

Last month, Palestinian delegates to the Israeli-Arab peace talks met publicly with Mr. Arafat in Amman. Israeli law bans contact with members of "terror organisations" and includes the PLO in that category.

"Israel questioned the other delegation members as soon as they crossed back into the West Bank two weeks ago. Dr. Ashrawi returned via Jordan after travelling in Europe."

Dr. Ashrawi said she was forced to wait three hours at the Jordan River border crossing as Israeli soldiers searched her baggage.

She said she was detained but not questioned at the bridge. Mr. Rabin has promised to freeze Jewish settlements in the occupied territories except in the Jerusalem area, the Jordan Valley and the Golan Heights.

Washington withheld \$10 billion in loan guarantees to Israel to help absorb an influx of immigrants when Mr. Shamir refused his demand to stop all settlement.

Mr. Rabin, his victory hailed by U.S. officials, hopes his policy will win the aid.

Dr. Ashrawi said she preferred Mr. Rabin over Mr. Shamir, whom she accused of doing "everything possible to sabotage the process."

"I don't think Rabin is the answer to our prayers and that we will have total agreement, but I think we have agreement on one thing: We should negotiate seriously," she said.

A top Egyptian official said in Cairo Sunday Arab countries are ready to resume peace talks with Israel under the leadership of the newly-elected Labour Party at the beginning of September.

Osama Al Baz, President Hosni Mubarak's political advisor, said the chances for peace look more promising now that Mr. Rabin has replaced Mr. Shamir as prime minister.

Dr. Baz made his remarks while briefing reporters on a meeting between Mr. Mubarak and Mr. Arafat at a presidential rest house in the port city of Alexandria.

He said bilateral talks between Israel and the Arabs should not be postponed anymore for reasons such as the U.S. presidential election in November or others.

"These talks should be resumed as soon as possible and the Arab side is ready to start at the beginning of September without awaiting the American elections," Dr. Baz said.

Dr. Baz said although it is still too early to specify what the new Israeli position will be, the Arabs should work on coordinating their positions. He said this was the focus of Mr. Mubarak's meeting with Mr. Arafat and his talks with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa on Saturday.

The foreign ministers of Arab countries participating in the negotiations are also planning to meet in Syria in late July in the same aim, the official added.

## CAA delegation leaves for Bulgaria to promote direct Sofia to Amman air route

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) left for Bulgaria Sunday, to discuss with government officials the prospect of promoting air transport between Jordan and Bulgaria and boosting bilateral cooperation in civil aviation.

The delegation is led by Ahmad Jweiber, CAA director general, who said in a pre-departure statement that the talks aim at reaching an agreement that would organise air transport operations between Jordan and Bulgaria and launch a direct regular air route between Sofia and Amman.

Mr. Jweiber said that the talks are part of an ongoing effort on the part of the CAA to increase the number of foreign airlines coming to the Kingdom.

Mr. Jweiber is accompanied on the trip by two of his senior assistants. The CAA, in cooperation with Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national airline, has recently opened routes for RJ to Indonesia, Greece and Berlin and increased flights to North America in a bid to expand the national airlines network around the world and bolster Jordan's relations with other nations.

## PSD to reschedule travel to West Bank in next 3 days

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Public Security Department (PSD) announced Sunday that only 500 travellers, can cross the King Hussein Bridge on Tuesday July 14 and that it was rescheduling the dates of travel for many people who had registered to cross to the occupied Arab territories in the coming three days.

The arrangements meant delays for some who registered to cross Tuesday who will now be crossing Wednesday, said the PSD statement. But it noted that priority will be given to travellers holding cables from the Red Cross or whose permits issued by the Israeli authorities are about to expire.

In the past week, the Jordanian authorities said that Israel was drastically reducing the number of Palestinians allowed to cross into the occupied territories leaving more than 600,000 people stranded in the Kingdom.

According to an earlier arrangement conducted through the United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation, up to 2,500 were to cross into the occupied Arab lands

on a daily basis, but the Israelis reduced the number gradually to 1,750, and on Fridays they only allow up to 500, according to Jordanian officials.

Director of the Palestinian Affairs Department at the Foreign Ministry Adel Irsheid called at the bridge last week and later issued an appeal to the U.N. organisations to interfere and put an end to Israel's practice of delaying entry for thousands of Palestinians.

Mr. Irsheid was also quoted as saying that Jordan was in touch with Britain, France and other members of the European Community as well as the United States over this question.

Most of the travellers cross the bridge during the summer holidays and the PSD is in the habit of organising the trips through registration offices in the Kingdom.

The King Hussein Bridge across the Jordan River has been the economic and social lifeline for Palestinians under occupation since the West Bank and the Gaza Strip were seized in the 1967 war.

## VTC holds more training classes for the unemployed

AMMAN (Petra) — The Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) is currently running three to six month training courses for those looking for jobs, and the courses are, in the morning and evening to cope with the increased number of trainees.

VTC Director General Ahmad Atwan said that the VTC is running intensive training courses in the evening and 32 trades are available in addition to eight trades for housewives and other women.

The VTC is also planning to offer training to 16,000 apprentices in 1992 and is helping university and community college graduates find jobs through this vital training, according to Dr. Atwan.

He said that the purpose of these courses is to try to find work for those unemployed whose numbers have increased with the return to Jordan by hundreds of thousands of expatriates. According to Dr. Atwan, some of the training courses include tailoring and dressmaking, weaving, shoe making, stone cutting, baking, confectionary work, construction, marble cutting,

brick-making, decor, leather work and painting and decorating homes.

The VTC, Dr. Atwan pointed out, is closely cooperating with the employees and businesses in the private sector, the Amman Chamber of Industry and the employment offices in the course of implementing the training programmes.

He said that in 1991, 17,511 citizens benefited from the training courses given at various vocational centres in Jordan. According to Yusef Huneidi, president of the Union of Workers employed in the brick, tile and marble industry, the construction industry in Jordan can absorb at least 10,000 trained people.

He urged the concerned authorities and the schools to encourage students to learn trades and join the training courses offered by the VTC centres. He said that workers in construction and other related industries obtain very high wages following the recent measures adopted by the Ministry of Labour to reorganise the local labour market and the noticeable reduction in the number of non-Jordanian workers in Jordan.

## Jordan to receive DM 37 million in loans

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Minister of Planning, Dr. Ziad Fariz, and the German Ambassador to Jordan, Heinrich Reiners, signed two agreements concerning financial cooperation between Jordan and the Federal Republic of Germany.

The Commodity Aid Programme V provides a loan of DM 5 million for Jordan to enable the country to meet foreign exchange costs resulting from the purchase of goods and services to reduce the damage caused by the heavy snow and rains in the agricultural sector during last winter. This loan was allocated over and above the regular German assistance to Jordan.

The second agreement — con-

cerning the Commodity Aid Programme VI — enables Jordan to obtain a loan of DM 32 million to cover current civilian requirement in form of goods and services.

A third document providing technical assistance in a seed multiplication project was also signed Sunday.

Jordan is among the recipients of the largest per capita amount of German aid. Since 1955 — the beginning of the bilateral cooperation — Jordan received about DM 1,632 billion within the framework of economic cooperation, which is the main field of assistance. DM 1,257 billion in financial aid and DM 375.6 million in technical assistance.

## Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society outlasts empire, pledges to promote socialism

By Odeh Odeh  
Social to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Despite the demise of the Soviet Union, the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society will continue to exist under its present name because the people of the former Soviet Union and Jordan continue to exist, the Society's President Mr. Bahjat Talhoumi has said.

Ties of friendship between the peoples of Russia and other parts of the former Soviet Union will continue to be enhanced despite the political changes, Mr. Talhoumi noted in an interview with the Jordan Times.

Mr. Talhoumi, who is also member of the Upper House of Parliament, said that the portrait of the late president of the Soviet Union Mikhail Gorbachev was removed from the society's walls where it used to hang only after Gorbachev's visit to Israel.

The political changes in the former Soviet Union are of no concern to our society although

Jordanian people were concerned to see a super power disintegrate, noted Mr. Talhoumi.

During a recent two-hour session, the society board reviewed a financial report which showed that it holds JD 232,000 in Jordanian banks and has already paid the rent for the society offices for 1993 and paid JD 26,000 in staff salaries.

Society member Mahmoud Maaita expressed his distress to see the demise of the Soviet Union which, he said, was a friend of the Arab nation.

Maaita stressed that the society will retain its role as a tool of tightening friendship with the peoples of the former Soviet Union.

Although the Soviet Union's role has stopped, that of the people of the former Soviet republics have not, according to Dr. Khaled Hamsahwi the society's secretary and a known Jordanian Marxist. He said that the developments in the former Soviet Union can by no means affect the society's activities.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### LECTURE

★ Lecture on "Ground-Penetrating Radar and its uses in Archaeology" Dr. Jon Cole of the Walls Walla College School of Engineering and Dr. Gerald Sandness of the Hanford Atomic Energy Facility at ACOR — 7:30 p.m.

### FILM

★ French film entitled "Prenom Carmen" at the French Cultural Centre — 8 p.m.

### Advertisement

## Kodak product launch in Jordan

More than 200 KODAK photographers and photofinishers will be attending a Gold II product launch, in Jordan later this week.

"KODAK Gold II 100, 200 and 400 colour print films ensure unsurpassed colour characteristics at each speed range," said Varouj Takelian, KODAK Manager for Photo Products. The delegates will see the result of KODAK's dedication to research and development, presently estimated

at U.S.\$300 million per annum, in colour print film characteristics utilising newly developed Tabular Grain (T-Grain) silver halide crystals. "Replacing the usual components in colour print film the T-Grain crystals provide higher performance compounds capable of maintaining colour consistency" and enhanced tones of all snaps, explained Malek Soubra, Photo Products Group Division Manager, KODAK (Near East) Inc.

## Returnee compensation and bank deposits improve national economy

AMMAN (Petra) — The return to Jordan of Jordanian funds deposited in banks abroad during the second half of 1990 and compensation paid to expatriates who have returned from Kuwait following the Gulf crisis have helped the national economy, according to an annual report issued Sunday by the Amman Chamber of Commerce.

The best indicators for the improvement in the national economy, the report said, could be found in the fact that 5,700 new industrial and commercial businesses were registered with the Ministry of Industry and Trade between January and October of 1991, the report noted.

In the first half of 1990, the economic recovery was going on well in the Kingdom but a major setback hit the economy with the outbreak of the Gulf crisis in August 1990, the report noted. It said that the closure of the Kuwaiti and Iraqi markets, the decline in the transfers of Jordanian workers abroad, the return to Jordan of hundreds of thousands of people and the drop in Jordan's exports dealt a heavy blow to the national economy, which came under further strain

as the country struggled to cope with the task of absorbing the expatriate and offering them basic services.

The Kuwaiti and Iraqi markets used to absorb 25 per cent of Jordan's overall exports before sanctions were imposed on Iraq and the siege imposed on Aqaba-bound shipping, the report noted.

However, the report added, one can only feel encouraged by the initial results of the implementation of the economic restructuring programme agreed on with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), particularly in the first half of this year.

The report said that the gross national product (GNP) in 1991 stood at JD2542.4 million, up from JD2326.8 million in 1990.

The report said that Jordan's foreign exports until October of 1991 were estimated to be worth JD587.1 million, up from 468.3 million in the same period of 1990.

Referring to imports, the report said that they reached JD12,556 million down by 12 per cent compared with the imports of the previous year.

The report also noted that by the end of October 1991 the

deficit in the balance of Jordan's trade with other countries stood at JD668.5 million, down by 11 per cent compared with the same period of 1990.

The government-sponsored economic reform programme to be carried out between 1992 and 1998, aims at achieving continued growth in various economic sectors, creating jobs, reducing consumption and reducing the margin of the deficit in the national fiscal budgets and the balance of trade.

The report said that the reform programme also aims at increasing the economic growth in real terms from one per cent in 1991, when the reform plan started, to 4.2 per cent by 1998, and at reducing the inflation rate from 10 per cent in 1991 to 4.5 per cent in 1998.

Commenting on the report, the chamber's president, Mohammad Asfour, said that the national economy continues to face challenges as a direct result of the Gulf crisis.

He called on the private sector to adopt measures designed to stimulate the national economy by increasing investments in income-generating projects.

## Decade-old idea takes shape on the airwaves, stay-tuned for French channel

By Maha Addasi  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A ten-year-old idea will soon take shape when a French radio channel will start transmitting to 300,000 French speakers in the first week of August, Gerard Blondel, the regional communications adviser at the French embassy said.

Philippe Paupert, a radio journalist and who has been in Jordan for six months recruiting and training French-speaking Jordanians to work for the French radio channel, said that this new channel is the idea of the French government, the French embassy in Jordan, the Ministry of Information, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Jordan who after ten years of initiating the idea will have their efforts rewarded. "The French government offered the 'hardware' for the execution of the programme, a 500,000 French transmitter which is being set up," Mr. Paupert said. "In August it will start transmitting four hours every morning to the

300,000 French speakers in Jordan and in the West Bank," said Mr. Paupert, who is considered the "soft-ware" offered by the French government to train journalists in media language, in preparation for the new programmes.

He added that the French channel, which will be transmitted on a separate frequency will first include "News in French" and music from the various French-speaking parts of the world.

"Initially, there will be music from Canada, Belgium, France, from the French-speaking parts of Africa, as well as news. But as the channel picks up there will be programmes about tourism, economy and other programmes that take the local angle into consideration," Mr. Paupert said.

Adding that this local angle is the point of the programme and the reason why the idea of setting up a satellite in Jordan to receive programmes from French speaking radio stations was not considered. He said that at this time,

the main concern is recruiting more people to work at the radio station. "Issam Shibleh and Manal Khalaf, from Jordan television's French channel, as well as Osama Al Kudah, a teacher of French will be working part-time at the radio station," Mr. Paupert said. "To enlist the efforts of four more people would be ideal," he said, adding that these people will all be trained in media language, because even if they are fluent in French, media language has special characteristic criteria that must be met. Mr. Paupert said that unlike himself, working with the French embassy for Radio Jordan, people working for the French channel will be Radio Jordan employees.

He added that the French channel is expected to be successful. "The French channel is like the cream on the cake," Mr. Paupert said. "The Arabic channel is the cake, the English channel, the chocolate, and the French channel, the cream. You can eat a cake without cream but it tastes better with it," he said.

## Tax exemptions announced

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Minister Sunday announced that a number of industrial projects, considered vital to the national economy, will be exempted from taxes or other customs duty for a limited number of years in accordance with Jordanian law

on encouraging investment.

A statement said that among those new industries are: Buses, concrete mixers, sanitary equipment, electronics used in the production of colour television, engineering industries and iron bars.

Also exempted are industries for plastic products and those producing lighters, wall to wall carpets, as well as podiatry hospital requirements. Food stuff processing industries and plastic sheets used for agriculture are also, among these industries.

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company announces that it has been decided to extend the closing date of tender No. 2/92 (Upgrading of Irbid LPG Station) until 12 hrs of Sat. August 29, 1992. Hoping this will be convenient for all contractors.

Chairman Board of Directors

### Tender's Notice

The Projects Directorate / Ministry of Education announces the tendering of the following tenders which are part of the Sixth Education Project (Extension/Saving) No. 2378-JO sponsored by the World Bank:

| Tender's No. | Title                            | Fees JD |
|--------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| 8/92         | Pre-Vocational Edu. W/Sh. (ES)   | 10,000  |
| 9/92         | General & Library Furniture (ES) | 10,000  |
| 10/92        | Laboratory Equipment (ES)        | 15,000  |
| 11/92        | Audio Visual Aids Hall (ES)      | 20,000  |

Interested bidders are invited to collect tenders documents from Procurement Division of the Projects Directorate/Ministry of Education, starting July 9th, 1992 against the payment of the above fees. Closing date will be 10.00 a.m. of August 31st, 1992.

Head of Special  
Tenders Committee  
Dr. Munther Al-Masri

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## Jordan Times

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## Pitfalls of middle road

A PRESS statement by Minister of Parliamentary Affairs Atef Boush published Sunday said the government had no predetermined stand on both the political parties' and the press and publications laws. His view is indeed interesting, but somehow lacks depth. For the government does not have a predetermined stand on these two very important laws, then who does? Isn't it the government that has drafted both laws in the first place? Or is this an attempt by Minister Boush to distance himself and his government from the two laws that were finalised before being submitted to Parliament by Taher Masri's Cabinet?

But that is not the only mind-boggling stand the government has taken on any particular controversial issue. When Minister of Justice Yusef Mubdein proposed a new reading for article three of the political parties draft law, the article concerned with the definition of those parties that drew so much debate on the floor of the Lower House, he was asked if this was a governmental proposal. To the surprise of everyone Minister Mubdein said it was not.

And when last year the Muslim Brotherhood moved a motion in Parliament urging the government to legislate the prohibition of alcohol, observers thought the government would muster enough support in the House to kill the motion there and then but for some reason did not. In fact some ministers had left the session only moments before the vote was taken on that matter.

Progressive Jordanians were hopeful that since the ultra-conservative Muslim Brotherhood was left out of Sharif Zeid's cabinet, the government would pursue forward-looking policies on all levels in order to advance civil liberties, progressive social and educational programmes and socio-economic openness. Unfortunately, instead of doing just that, the government seems intent on taking a middle-of-the-road approach on almost all issues, putting itself at collision course with all the political forces, satisfying no-one, yet compromising principles that should not be compromising on.

Forward looking Jordanians are naturally disappointed that the government headed by a strong forward-looking prime minister, and grouping a number of energetic and enthusiastic ministers, is lacking both in political colour and resolve. While nobody expects the Sharif Zeid government to have a colour different from that bright colour of the system itself, progressive Jordanians have the right to bemoan loss of time and opportunity on being middle of the road, susceptible to being hit from every direction, for no good reason at all.

This government might want to look at itself as transitional in nature, among other things. But the moment is very crucial for the country's political and social future. The whole world is either changing or in the process of change. We cannot simply sit and watch. There is a great deal of change that needs to be achieved. Whether it is this government or any other; whether the time is yesterday, today or tomorrow; we in Jordan must not lose a chance or a minute without changing to the better positive change is what life is all about, some people might say.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I daily Sunday commented on the race between the Republican and Democratic candidates running in the presidential elections campaign in the U.S. to win Israel's favour. It seems that for any candidate, to ensure the capture of the White House, he should appease the Jewish state and heap on it much praise and offer many promises for continued American military and economic aid, said the daily. One of these promises came through the U.S. ambassador in Israel who promised guarantees of loans totalling \$10 billion needed to settle the Jewish immigrants from Europe, the paper said. In the United States itself, the Democratic candidate Bill Clinton promised that Washington will recognise Jerusalem as the Jewish state's capital, in violation of current U.S. policies with regard to the status of the city, added the daily. It said that offering Israel all that it demands in violation of all international principles and U.N. resolutions, is a disregard of the desires and the beliefs of the international community and a flagrant defiance of the Arab World. Such competition and rivalry among the candidates, in the course of the hot race for the White House, is bound to place further obstacles in the path of the peace process, the paper pointed out. It said that the American elections arena has always served as a field for the candidates to outbid one another in their desperate attempt to reach the White House, no matter how much damage to the U.S. credibility these promises cause. Indeed, said the daily, this underhand dealing exposes the true nature of the world's loose superpower which undertook to sponsor the peace process and causes frustration to those who had bet on Washington as a peace-maker.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily Sunday criticised the Water Authority of Jordan for failing to apply a fair distribution of water supplies to different regions of Jordan. In light of the too many complaints being made by public about lack of proper programmes for the distribution of water, one can say that the water authority is not doing a good job, said Nazih in his column. Irbit, for instance, remain without water for a whole week, or more sometimes, and its people continue to hope against hope that the water authority will come to their help at a time when they realise that sufficient water resources now do exist, said the writer. Almost every day thousands of telephone calls flood the Water Department in Irbit, housewives and companies, farmers and individual citizens complaining that they have no water and officials trying to create pretexts and excuses for the department. Not a single caller to the authority or the newspaper spoke well of the water distribution programmes, and all people agree that the distribution system is unfair as some areas get water 24 hours a day while some districts wait for the water for a whole week, said the writer. Irbit, which perhaps received rain water this year more than other parts of the country noted the writer, is suffering due to lack of sufficient water, and it is only fair and reasonable to demand that the water authority embark on speedy measures to find a solution to this chronic problem.

## Weekly Political Pulse

# Political parties law – a threshold on the road of democracy

Now that the law on political parties has been adopted, the country has entered another era in the democratisation process that His Majesty King Hussein had ushered in three years ago. This new threshold cannot be viewed as the end of the line and as culminating the endeavours to perfect the democratic experiment in Jordan. Most likely the new achievement on the road towards a more complete form of democracy is nothing but a watershed for the future development of pluralistic democracy. One thing is clear however: The road towards full democracy is long and tortuous.

As King Hussein has repeatedly warned, democracy begins in the minds and souls of the people who must cast their votes periodically in accordance with their own convictions. Yet there are signs already that the country is not heading towards a harmonious democracy but rather towards a confrontational form of democracy where one bloc of political thought is grouping in opposition to another as if a showdown were imminent.

True political parties the world over engage in seasonal competition for support from the people that they are trying to serve in their own respective way. But what worries me most in the case of Jordan is the ill feeling that is brewing between the new various factions in the country as if they have different loyalties and belong to different entities.

No one would want the Algerian precedent to occur among our

midst. There the success of the Islamist forces was viewed as a threat to the other parties in the country and ultimately gave cause for interference in the democratic process. Enough safeguards need to be built in the legislation of Jordan to assure that no similar events would ever occur in the Kingdom.

The first order of business for attaining such an objective is to inculcate in the minds of the various constituencies operating on the Jordanian theatre that harmonious and cooperative competition will not only be promoted but also guaranteed. Above all the country must accept and abide by whatever voting results ensue in the country. But this is much easier said than done. To begin with, there is an urgent need for a constitutional amendment that prevents and outlaws the cessation of pluralistic democracy. There must be created constitutional safeguards against one party system in Jordan as soon as possible. The repeated reference to the National Charter is no panacea to this constitutional hiatus as the Charter's legal standing is yet to be settled. In any case, as long as the constitution of the country is silent on this point, no amount of submissions on the basis of the Charter would be sufficient to rebut the arguments to the contrary. Only if Jordanians are assured of this constitutional right will they rest secure no matter which party wins control over Parliament.

Another giant step awaits us in the continuing endeavour to strengthen and broaden democracy. The law on publication and

freedom of the press has yet to be finalised in order to give added strength and depth to the big feat already attained by the adoption of the legislation on the formation of political parties. As media of mass communication plays such an important role in the endeavour public opinion, extra effort needs to be invested in the supervision of all mass media. This must also include the operations of all mass media. This must also include the state-owned media such as television and radio.

There are now strong arguments in favour of placing Radio Jordan and Jordan Television under the supervision of a quasi official board of trustees to adopt and exercise policy issues. At least the quality of the output of these two very significant sectors of mass media will be placed in the hands of people who are capable of making value judgements that are more helpful to the country. Policy considerations for such very critical agencies cannot be left in the hands of a very few people who may err with the best of intentions. At least the experience of Great Britain in this regard may be put to use with a view to build on it after taking into consideration the peculiar situation of the country. It will be remembered that BBC's policies are determined by a board of trustees that periodically reviews the performance of its radio and television services.

What such additional steps, democracy in Jordan will continue to be lacking in essential areas.

# North Korea looking for new friends

By Farida Ghani Burtis

NEW YORK — The recent admission by North Korea that it has produced a small amount of plutonium is a nagging reminder to nuclear proliferation experts that, if it were not for the disastrous state of its finances, North Korea might already be holding a nuclear bomb. It had managed to circumvent barriers put in the way of countries seeking nuclear military power.

After the international community started focusing on the threat posed by the secretive military regime in Pyongyang, several warnings were issued by experts — including the director of the Central Intelligence Agency, Robert M. Gates — who testified before the U.S. Congress this spring that North Korea might be able to use nuclear weapons "soon and possibly very soon."

Beyond its regional impact, the North Korea nuclear weapons programme raises worldwide concerns because of the danger that North Korea may export nuclear materials and technology. If North Korea were judged to have a nuclear weapons capability, experts fear South Korea would feel obliged to develop a similar capability. Some also believe that Japan would be forced to follow suit rather than to the only power in northeast Asia without a nuclear option.

North Korea recently surprised the international community,

however, by ratifying the comprehensive safeguards agreement under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, which it signed in 1985. It has also provided the U.N.'s International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) with an initial declaration of its nuclear materials and installations. After visiting North Korea in May, IAEA Director-General Hans Blix said North Korea had declared "a tiny quantity" of plutonium, "far from what you need for a bomb." Mr. Blix would not divulge the precise amount declared on the grounds of confidentiality. Mr. Blix and his advisors were the first foreigners to visit several nuclear installations in North Korea, but they had been preceded by a scientific team from the privately funded Carnegie foundation based in Washington. The team's visit was a rare opportunity for foreign observers to probe a highly secretive and all-powerful government apparatus.

Team member Selig Harrison, senior associate of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, attributes the new climate in North Korea to economic pressure. North Korea's new goals seem to be the "reduction of military spending through cooperation with South Korea and the U.S., and the development of advanced industrial technology by an economic opening to Japan and the West," Mr.

Harrison said in an interview. He notes that the younger generation of moderate North Koreans, especially those who have travelled abroad, are attempting with "intermittent success" to make North Korea's politics consistent with the new economic objectives. "There is a policy struggle under way, out a power struggle," he stresses. By all indications, leader Kim Il Sung, in power since 1949, remains "firmly in control," Mr. Harrison says, but he has replaced hardline Marxism-Leninism with his own ideology of self-reliance.

"They want to open up, but the party is afraid of losing control," Mr. Harrison said. North Korea is definitely in a period of transition, he added, comparing the situation to what happened in China 10 or 15 years ago. "Pyongyang is no longer paranoid as it used to be about contacts with the outside world," says Mr. Harrison. "Tour groups from Australia, Hong Kong and Britain are beginning to trickle in." Among the signs of a new climate are photos and statues of Kim Il Sung in a Western suit rather than a Mao jacket and rock music, along with North Korean patriotic anthems, blaring out of loudspeakers in hotel dining rooms.

North Korea maintains that its nuclear programme is strictly for providing nuclear energy for the country's increasing need for electricity. According to U.S. administration sources, North

Korea, in a recent surprise move, is now prepared to give up its nuclear programme in exchange for a supply of nuclear fuel and technology for civilian power from Japan, South Korea and Western countries. Such an exchange would imply regular inspections of all North Korea nuclear sites.

Even though North and South Korea have agreed to a plan to have mutual inspections, they are still negotiating a binding treaty under the plan, according to Berhan Andemicael, IAEA representative to the U.N. In an interview, Mr. Andemicael pointed out that North Korea has "so far not accepted the proposal by the South to have challenge (surprise) inspections of clandestine nuclear sites."

During the visit of the Carnegie Endowment delegation, the most detailed discussion of the alleged reprocessing plant took place between Mr. Harrison and Ministry for the Atomic Energy Industry spokesman Choe Jong Sun. Says Mr. Harrison: "The proposal for mutual inspections put forward by the South with U.S. encouragement and guidance, was designed to gain access to the North's suspected reprocessing plant, in addition to the Nyongbyon reactor, as the quid pro quo for permitting the North to inspect Kusan Air Base and other U.S. bases where nuclear weapons have been stored." Despite extensive discussions with

North Korean officials, Mr. Harrison and the Carnegie Endowment team were not permitted to visit nuclear installation sites.

Mr. Harrison believes that for the North to give up its nuclear option completely and accept an airtight inspection system, some form of comprehensive nuclear-free zone agreement would have to be made. North and South Korea and their supporters would have to pledge not to use nuclear weapons against each other.

Another cause for concern is North Korea has supplied hundreds of its home-produced, modified Scud-B missiles to Libya, Iran and Syria. Iran and North Korea reportedly signed a deal in 1987 worth \$500 million that covered the Iranian purchase of 100 Scud-B missiles. North Korea's assistance to the development of a missile production facility in Iran and possibly Iranian financial support to help North Korea's efforts to produce a longer-range Scud. Nuclear weapons proliferation expert, Leonard S. Spector speculates that North Korean/Iranian cooperation in the missile field could easily extend to nuclear weapons.

When, in June, IAEA inspectors completed the first inspection of nuclear materials and installations to "verify the initial declaration..." the authorities

have made operating records available to our inspectors and committed to continue to do so," the agency's report says. However, "A difficulty exists regarding this programme, as for others, to assess the completeness of the initial declaration."

When asked to elaborate on the "difficulty," Mr. Andemicael said IAEA must reconcile how a large reprocessing plant — called a "radiochemical laboratory" by North Korea — could have been installed without pilot projects preceding it. He added that the IAEA had been assured it could "visit any site and installation" the agency wished to see, "irrespective of whether it was found on the initial list submitted to the IAEA."

The IAEA has rights under its safeguard agreement with North Korea to request special inspections in case there is reason to believe that something is undeclared. However, the IAEA does not have the authority for "challenge" inspections as it occurs in Iraq. North Korea has argued that the IAEA inspections under way are sufficient evidence that it is acting in good faith and that the nuclear issue is closed. However, with many questions still unresolved, Asian and Western investors are applying a wait-and-see policy — World News Link.

## LETTERS

### What's in a name?

To the Editor:

Your report, "Citizenship Now Possible for non-Jordanian Wives" (Jordan Times, July 8, 1992), details a ruling which will be used to interpret specific parts of Jordan's nationality laws. The ruling is a disturbing revelation of discrimination. It is also vague, provincial, and more likely to create problems than to facilitate a just application of the law.

The first obvious prejudicial statement is "non-Jordanian women married to Jordanians." The reader must conclude that only men are Jordanian citizens. Since this is not true, why does this ruling segregate Jordanian citizens according to their sex? This is quite incredible when referring to a nationality law. Either one is a citizen or one is not.

The ruling then proceeds to divide the non-Jordanian female spouses of Jordanian men into two categories: non-Arab persons or Arab persons. Exactly how this is to be determined is totally unclear and actually hints of racial bias. Is a non-Arab woman one who possesses a passport from any country in the world other than an Arab country, or is she the offspring of parents who do not have "Arab blood" in their veins? Conversely, is an Arab woman one who possesses a passport from an Arab nation or could she be, for instance, a French citizen of Algerian parents (or at least an Arab father) living in France?

Once they are able to prove Arab or non-Arab status, the couple then faces the bias of fees and length of their marriage. The Arab woman must be married to her Jordanian husband 3 years and pay a fee of JD 100; whereas the non-Arab woman must be married 5 years and pay a fee of JD 200! Is the non-Arab woman supposed to be richer and therefore can afford double the fees of her Arab counterpart, or is her Jordanian husband being punished for straying from the ethnic norm? If the Ministry of Interior is in need of money, why not just increase passport fees slightly for all Jordanians? The length of the marriage seems totally irrelevant in the context of an application for citizenship. More to the point would be how long the non-Jordanian female resided in Jordan.

Citizenship is generally based on place of birth and/or nationality of parents. Many problems arise in countries where citizenship is based on colour, gender, the father's ethnic background, the mother's religion, and/or limited to members of a specific tribe or race. Jordan doesn't need to build problem into its laws. A non-Jordanian married to a Jordanian citizen should be able to apply for Jordanian nationality after fulfilling certain clear and straightforward criteria. The sex, ethnic background or current nationality of the non-Jordanian should make no difference under the law.

Surely this ruling is illegal, according to the Jordanian Constitution and the National Charter. Because if it is not, it should be.

Ann Sawalha,  
P.O. Box 927000,  
Amman.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.

# Clinton-Gore — look-alike ticket is a break with tradition

By Walter R. Mears  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — So much for ticket-balancing. Bill Clinton teamed with a look-alike running mate, the senator next door, in a calculated break with campaign tradition.

For the second spot on his presidential campaign ticket, the Governor of Arkansas chose Sen. Albert Gore Jr. Of Tennessee.

They don't actually look alike, but both are about the same age, from the same region, and share a centrist Democratic philosophy.

In old-style politics, the rule was balance — regional, philosophical, even generational. The theory was that contrasts, even opposites, might attract more votes to a presidential ticket.

None of the above apply to the ticket the Democratic national convention will ratify at Madison Square Garden in New York next week.

Mr. Clinton and Mr. Gore are from adjacent, relatively small southern states. Mr. Clinton is 45, Mr. Gore is 44. Both are allied with the centrist, moderate school of Democratic politics, although Republican campaigners already are trying to depict Mr. Gore as an all-out, old-line liberal.

"Throughout American history, each generation has passed on leadership to the next," said Mr. Gore, whose father was a senator, too. "That time has come again."

For the first time, a major party is nominating two men born after World War II. As John F. Kennedy began his presidency, he said the torch had been passed to a generation tested in that war and in the bitter peace of the cold war era. With the Clinton-Gore ticket, it passes again — this time, in less elegant phraseology, to the baby boom generation.

That's a contrast to the genera-



Bill Clinton

tion gap on the republican ticket — Mr. Bush is 68, Vice President Dan Quayle 45.

Nor were old-fashioned geography lessons a factor. No Boston-Austin span this time as the Democrats tried in 1988.

"You can exaggerate geography," said former Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis, trounced in 1988 with Texas Sen. Lloyd Bentsen as his running mate. "These campaigns really become national."

Mr. Clinton and Mr. Gore share the Democratic centre, although the Bush campaign will be out to convince voters that they're liberals in disguise. The Clinton wager is that a centrist ticket can reclaim votes that have been going Republican, particularly in the south and sun belt states.

The last time the Democrats won the White House, in 1976, they did it with Jimmy Carter, their most conservative nominee of the era.

The arithmetic of a three-way contest against Mr. Bush and independent Ross Perot makes the south crucial to Clinton. It has become part of the base for



Albert Gore

successive Republican presidential victories, and Mr. Perot has fared well in polls there. Liberals have been losers there, balanced tickets notwithstanding.

And a strategy that succeeded in forcing Mr. Bush and Mr. Perot to defend the south and sun belt could divert them and thus help Mr. Clinton in states he must win to have a chance — California, plus the old Democratic strongholds of the industrial Midwest and Northeast.

Mr. Bush's campaign manager, Fred Malek, said he doesn't expect the president will have problems in the south, although he conceded that Mr. Gore might deliver Tennessee's 11 electoral votes to the Democrats.

Ironically, the centrist credentials that may be a major asset in the fall got an unintended boost from Jesse Jackson, the black civil rights leader who unsuccessfully sought the Democratic presidential nomination in 1984 and 1988.

"Well, it's all so southern, it's all Democratic Leadership Council, so it's a fairly narrow ticket," Mr. Jackson said in a Fox Television interview. The Democratic Leadership Council is an umbrella

la group set up by centrist Democrats to push their views in party councils.

"...It takes two wings to fly," Mr. Jackson said, "and here you have two of the same wing."

There are some differences between the men. Mr. Clinton said he wanted a candidate to complement his own experience and background. A governor, Mr. Clinton plucked a running mate out of Congress, with experience in the House of Representatives and Senate dating from 1976.

Mr. Gore is a Vietnam veteran; Mr. Clinton didn't go. Mr. Gore is an environmental specialist; that topic has been a target for Mr. Clinton's critics who cite pollution in Arkansas. Mr. Gore broke with Democratic leaders in 1991 and voted to authorise the use of force in the Gulf, then spoke out against Republicans he said were playing politics with operation Desert Storm.

Mr. Clinton said, and repeated, that Mr. Gore is qualified for the presidency "has what it takes to lead this great nation from the day we take office." The Democrats will argue that Vice President Dan Quayle never has met that standard.

For all that, vice presidential nominees do not win elections. In a close contest, a running mate can produce vital electoral votes, but even that hasn't happened since Lyndon B. Johnson helped the Kennedy ticket narrowly carry Texas in 1960.

Four years ago, Mr. Johnson had called the vice presidential nomination a political dead end. It isn't. In six of the last seven presidential elections, at least one major party presidential nominee had served as vice president.

So it's not a bad spot for a Democrat with former and future presidential plans.

هناك اعتنا



## A merger of interest in House

(Continued from page 1)

The Brotherhood was victorious in asserting their stand was Article 16 of the law which set 18 as the minimum age for party membership as opposed to 19. The minimum age for those wanting to join a party's leadership was set at 25 years of age.

The argument over the definition of the political parties, which initially paralysed the House for three sessions before a vote was taken, centred on the concept of parties. The ideological framework in which the Brotherhood works does not allow for parties as such but rather groupings. Parties could imply pluralism which in turn could imply an alternative to Islamic rule or law as provided in the Shura — Islamic consultative democracy — explained one Independent Islamist.

The ideological battle and what appeared to be paradoxes did not end with the definition on political parties. Pluralism and adherence to the Constitution was made a "must" in Article 21 of the law.

By voting in favour of Article 21, as presented by Brotherhood Deputy Abdul Rahim Ekour (Irbid), the Brotherhood committed itself to principles which are technically against its own charter.

Article 21 states that "all Jordanian parties have to abide by the provisions of the Constitution... have to respect the principle of pluralism... and reject violence and discrimination between citizens." The article ends by asking that these and other provisions be stated as basic tenets in all party charters.

As one veteran political observer put it, "when the Islamists use their slogan 'Islam is the solution,' they emphasise 'the'; this is a rejection of pluralism," said the observer. "While all parties have a certain righteousness, any claim that there is one and only one solution to life is a clear rejection of pluralistic thought."

"The Constitution assures that Jordan is governed by a monarchy not a system of imams," said Deputy Tarawneh. "While Islam is the country's state religion it is not our only source for the law, according to our Constitution. Thus, by pledging to abide by the Constitution, the Brotherhood has agreed to live side by side with the rest of us and indirectly forfeited their goals of creating an Islamic state," said Mr. Tarawneh, a veteran political activist with pan-Arab movements.

Mr. Ekour's proposal that Article 21 as its stands made things all the more strange, observers noted.

Confusion grew further when the Brotherhood made what appeared to be yet another concession with Article 14, which bans political activities in unions, professional associations, charitable societies, clubs and public or private sector institutions. The version that the Brotherhood and the vast majority of the House agreed to was an even more inclusive version than the original draft. Democratic Bloc member Abdul Karim Al Dehimi (Mafrag) called for the inclusion of unions and professional associations to the list and this call was subsequently endorsed by the Brotherhood, the National and Constitutional blocs as well as several members of the Democratic and Independent Islamic blocs.

The oddity of this may seem apparent only to those who know that the institutions mentioned in the article were all forums for underground political activities for the last 30 years.

Most deputies who sit in Parliament today had preached political thought in the very institutions that they voted to keep clear of politics.

Irbid Deputy Husni Shihab, who belongs to the Democratic Bloc, called the article unfair and questioned how the rule would be applied. "It will be up to the discretion of the Interior Ministry to decide who and what political activities in these institutions mean because the article is not clear enough," Dr. Shihab said.

"To have a guest speaker at the Agricultural Engineers Association who happens to be a member of this or that party and as a result of his talk promotes his party's policies may be penalised for his action, that's what is implied here and that is ridiculous," Dr. Shihab argued.

Several deputies complained that the House members failed to study the law well. In some cases, noted Deputy and lawyer Saleem Zoubi, "they changed progressive articles written by the government and made

them less progressive because they didn't understand the implications."

"Article 14 in the original draft, for example, beld that the Ministry of Interior must state why it does and why it does not agree to register a party. The amended version only asks that the ministry gives its reasons in the case of a rejection," said Mr. Zoubi, a vocal opponent of many articles of the law.

"Legally," he said, "the approval would create a precedent which could be referred to in the future by other parties. Without precedents it is more difficult for parties (which are) denied a license to appeal the government's decision."

While there was a consensus on the decision to ban Jordanian political parties from having financial and organisational links with parties outside the Kingdom, the nature of the links was not clear enough, according to some political observers.

"They did not specify clearly enough what constitutes financial links for example," said one political activist. "What will be the control on individual donors?"

While the law limits individual donations to JD 5,000 a year to any one party, many political activists are worried that some financial contributions could be made through other channels.

Another regulation which came under heavy fire was the penalty issue. The harshest stipulation was that those found to have received or transmitted money from outside Jordan to any Jordanian political party will have to pay a fine of JD 2000 and or face a prison term of up to two years.

The law, most deputies agreed, will be amended as time passed and the country's democratic institutions grew, but almost the entire political spectrum welcomed the passage of the law.

"We would have liked to have seen more changes but overall we are satisfied and welcome the law," said Islamist Deputy Yusuf Al Athem.

Deputy Shihab said: "Despite all its shortcomings it is a welcome improvement on our previous condition."

The only Communist deputy Party in Parliament and former political prisoner, Issa Madanat, hailed the law as "the single most important step to date in the realisation of a democratic society."

But not all concurred with this generally-held opinion. The Brotherhood's Abu Ghannem directly criticised the law, which he described as "an ugly woman with a lot of make-up." His main criticism focused on the point that the law gave the Ministry of Interior too many powers over political parties.

"The forming of political parties is a constitutional right," he said. "That the

Ministry (of Interior) should be able to refuse any group of people the right to form a political party is wrong."

According to the law, judicial authorities have the power to reverse the ministry's rejection of licensing a political party.

Another opponent of the law is maverick Amman Deputy Ahmad Oweidi Al Abbadi, who had led a group of eight deputies in lobbying against the legalisation of political parties on the grounds that "the Jordanian society is not yet ready for them."

Political observers say that while the law's application has yet to be tested, especially when 60 or more political groups await licensing, the law nevertheless is a long-awaited constitutional right that had once again to be guaranteed.

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## Rabin unveils his cabinet

(Continued from page 1)

ministry, the office said.

The welfare and religious portfolios are reportedly being held to offer potential religious coalition partners, the United Torah Judaism bloc and the National Religious Party.

Mr. Deri, 33, will be the only member of the outgoing government to hold his post, as interior minister.

The two women appointed were: Labour's Ora Namir, 61, as environment minister, and Meretz's Shulamit Aloni, 62, as education minister.

The Iraqi-born Moshe Shahal, who will be communications and police minister, became the first cabinet member to say he could accept a Palestinian state when he was energy minister in 1984-1988.

However, news reports said the police portfolio could go to Rafael Eitan of the right wing

Izmet Party if he is reconsidered and joined Mr. Rabin's coalition.

The two other Meretz appointees are Yair Tsaban, 63, immigration Minister, and Amnon Rubinstein, 61, energy.

The labour-ministers are: Haim Ramon, 42, health; Micha Harish, 56, industry; Yshrael Kessar, 61, transportation and deputy prime minister; Shimon Shitreet, 46, economics; Yacov Tsur, 55, agriculture; Uzi Baram, 55, tourism; David Libai, 58, justice; Avraham Shochat, 59, finance; and Binyamin Ben Eliezer, 56, housing.

The Labour Party, which won 44 seats on the 120-member parliament, signed coalition agreements with Meretz and Shas, giving it a 62-seat majority. With the expected backing of two Arab and three Communist lawmakers who will not serve in the government, it would have 67 votes.

Additional appointments could follow if other parties decided to enter the government.

## King stresses role of press

(Continued from page 1)

man Al Qudah, and JPA board members, the King underlined the importance of the role of the Jordanian press.

The responsibility of the press at this stage is a serious one because Jordan "is now holding the torch in the midst of darkness," King Hussein noted.

"As the world is changing and the walls are falling we regrettably continue to find in this big homeland some people who are still setting up barriers and careful to keep the walls that divide the states of the Arab Homeland and the peoples of the same nation," the King said.

"The responsibility of the press lies in its high performance which it must pursue in the course of democracy and in the quest to help protect and respect human rights," he said.

He stressed the need for the Jordanian press to remain in close

touch with the outside world and confront the challenges through continued diligence and sacrifice and keenness to attain science and facts.

The King congratulated the new JPA board and wished its members success in their mission. Mr. Qudah said that the Jordanian press realises that our country is targeted and that the leadership of this country is also targeted because "we help the King to carry the torch of the nation and true national belonging to all national causes."

At the audience, a number of important issues like the press and publications law and the draft law on the JPA were reviewed. Commenting on the two draft laws, the King underlined the need to have two modern laws that can cater to the requirements of democracy.

Attending the audience was Chief of the Royal Court Khaled Karaki.

## Islamists boycott trials

(Continued from page 1)

died.

The elections were postponed for six months. The FIS, under new leaders, led after the first round. But a military coup in January cancelled the second round. The party was banned and thousands of its followers jailed.

The military regime that has since run Algeria has suspended three-year-old democratic reforms that legalised opposition groups like the FIS.

In Tunisia, where 279 fundamentalists went on trial last week for plotting to topple President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali, those fears were embodied by Al Nahda (Renaissance).

The defendants, who include soldiers, police officers and customs agents, are being tried in two separate courts divided into groups of 171 and 108.

Proceedings against the second group have adjourned until July 27 on a request from defence lawyers, many of whom have clients in both courts.

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# Mansell wins British Grand Prix

SILVERSTONE, England (R) — Nigel Mansell shattered two records at the British Grand Prix as he swept to his seventh win in nine races this season.

The comfortable victory was the 28th of his Formula One motor racing career, one more than the British record previously held by former world champion Jackie Stewart.

Mansell, driving a Williams, won by 39 seconds after taking the lead on the opening lap and driving unchallenged to a spectacular triumph before his adoring fans.

His winning time was one hour 25 minutes 42.991 seconds, ahead of his team mate Italian Riccardo Patrese, and the Briton smashed the circuit lap record in the process.

British Martin Brundle finished third in a Benetton to repeat the podium line-up at last week's French Grand Prix.

German Michael Schumacher has fourth in the second Benetton ahead of Austrian Gerhard Berger in a McLaren and Finland's Mika Hakkinen in a Lotus.

The race, in which Mansell reeled off a series of record lap times, ended in chaos as thousands of fans invaded the circuit shortly after he had taken the chequered flag.

Public address system announcements warning people how dangerous a track invasion could be were ignored as Mansell was engulfed in a sea of people waving union flags.

Behind him, the rest of the field were still racing towards the

finish where yellow warning flags were waved furiously to prevent what could easily have been a disaster.

Mansell's win increased his lead in the Drivers' World Championship to 36 points.

He now has 76 points after nine rounds of the 16-race programme while Patrese, who followed him home for the sixth Williams 1-2 this year, has 40 points.

World champion Ayrton Senna, in a McLaren, failed to finish after running in fourth position behind Brundle for a long period. The Brazilian retired after 53 laps of the 59-lap race and now has virtually no hope of retaining his title.

The race was run in dry conditions after heavy rain Saturday and the crowd went wild with delight as Mansell waved at them from the podium after he had been rescued by a circuit vehicle on the track.

Now only Frenchman Alain Prost (44 wins) and Senna, who has won 34 races, lie ahead of Mansell in the record books.

Strangely Mansell did not make a good start to his triumphant afternoon as he was beaten off the grid by Patrese while

Brundle also made a superb charge.

Mansell said: "That was the greatest race of my career and the greatest day in the history of British motor racing. I dedicate this victory to the fans who were completely amazing today."

"I've over experienced anything like that in all of my career and have never seen anything like it in the world. The fans were everywhere."

"I ran one person over. He was a big man and I was only going a few miles per hour and I hope he got up all right. I had to leave to the car out at club corner."

Mansell refused to be drawn on his title chances. "I have been in this game too long and been too disappointed before. I miss out only 16 laps before the end like I did in 1986 taught me a lesson."

He said he was able to get past Patrese on lap one by "getting a slingshot out of stowe corner" and once again praised the fans.

He said: "Every time I passed them on the straight the fans were howling and gave me 300 extra revs and when the others came along they blew the other way."

"On the podium I was just thinking about the 28 wins and Jackie Stewart's record."

Mansell ended on a mysterious note, saying: "Then I thought about something else. Some other things which I let you know about later — in about three months' time."

Patrese said: "This was a hard race for me — for sure the hardest one of the season. In fact I am quite tired and all my bones feel broken. But I feel very pleased for Nigel, myself and of course the team for another one-two."

"Everyone has done a fantastic job. I only hope it continues. I had a good start and Nigel must have had a bit of wheelspin, but then he was away into another great lead."

Brundle was delighted with his race and recalled the old days when he battled with Senna for the 1983 British Formula 3,000 Championship — a title the Brazilian won.

"It was like old times — scrapping round silverstone with Senna. I really enjoyed it and the cars were fantastic. No problems," he said.

"I got held up by Damon Hill, I think, and Ayrton shot through; but then he failed on the same lap... I can't say much about that except that I was smiling a lot and I just cruised through and finished."

Senna responded in gentlemanly fashion: "I had a good clean fight with Martin Brundle and he warmly deserved his third place. I was pushing like hell the whole race — it was really tiring. I was surprised that I could keep up such a performance under the pressure for so long."

"On some corners I could catch him, on some he went away. I tried many times, sometimes the backmarkers helped, sometimes they didn't. But with five laps to go my transmission failed."

Schumacher acknowledged that Brundle had been faster.

"My start was not good enough. I passed him at Becketts but went into the gravel and then over a kerb. At the end I pushed Berger hard, and I was lucky he ran into trouble."

## SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

### Bruguera wins Swiss Open final

GSTAAD, Switzerland (AP) — Sixth-seeded Sergi Bruguera captured the Swiss Open Tennis Tournament Monday by defeating Francisco Clavet 6-1, 6-4 in an all-Spanish final. It was Bruguera's third straight year in the final of the clay-court event and his first win. He notched his second victory of the year, having won in Madrid in April. The 21-year-old took only 90 minutes to defeat Clavet. Bruguera, a clay-court specialist ranked 20th in the world, dominated throughout with his powerful baseline shots and lobs. It was the fifth ATP Tournament victory of Bruguera's career and gave him a 2-1 edge in direct confrontations with Clavet. He said he felt refreshed from a six-week break after the French Open.

### Referees plan to defy advertising ban

ZURICH (R) — Swiss referees plan to carry advertisements on their jerseys in defiance of a ban by FIFA, soccer's governing body, when their new season kicks off Saturday. The ban, confirmed by FIFA two weeks ago, was underlined by spokesman Guido Tognoni who said Monday: "The Executive Committee rejected a proposal to allow referees to carry advertising on their jerseys. As such, it would be better if the Swiss re-appraise their decision." But Referees' Commission chief Willi Jaus appeared unbending when he said in a weekend newspaper interview: "We are urged from all sides to improve the quality of refereeing. At last we have a sponsor willing to support us financially." Jaus said the money, from a paint manufacturer, would be used for courses for referees and linesmen. "We cannot turn down this offer of 300,000 Swiss francs (\$200,000)," he said.

### Martinez defends Austrian title

KITZBUHEL, Austria (AP) — Top-seeded Conchita Martinez of Spain beat Switzerland's Marnetta Maleeva-Fragniere 6-0, 3-6, 6-2, to successfully defend her title at the \$150,000 Austrian Ladies Open. Martinez, ranked eighth by the Women's Tennis Association, took only 25 minutes to win the first set but the 25-year-old Bulgarian-born Swiss, ranked 10th and seeded second, rallied in the second despite a chilly drizzle. The victory was somewhat of a revenge for Martinez, who has lost her last three meetings with Maleeva-Fragniere. "That's why I was so pleased to be able to defend my title here successfully," Martinez said.

### Gustafsson wins Swedish Open final

BASTAD, Sweden (AP) — Defending champion Magnus Gustafsson of Sweden won his first ATP Tour event of the year Sunday, outlasting unseeded Thomas Carbonell of Spain 5-7, 7-5, 6-4 in the final of the \$260,000 Swedish Open. "I'm back in business," said Gustafsson, a former top 10 player. "This looks promising for the Olympics." Gustafsson will be one of Sweden's three singles players later this month in Barcelona, where the surface also is clay. The other Sweden are former top-ranked Stefan Edberg, who didn't play in the Swedish Open this year, and Magnus Larsson, who reached the quarterfinals here.

### Courier, Agassi to play in Tokyo

TOKYO (AP) — Jim Courier, the world's No. 1-ranked tennis player, and Wimbledon champion Andre Agassi will compete in the \$1.08 million Seiko Super Tennis in October, organizers said Monday. Besides those two Americans, the 48 entries include Stefan Edberg of Sweden, No. 2 in the world; Boris Becker of Germany, No. 6, and American Michael Chang, No. 7, they added. Ivan Lendl, formerly of Czechoslovakia, probably will play in Japan for the first time as an American, the said. The singles championship is worth \$135,000 in the Oct. 12-18 tournament on the artificial court of Tokyo Metropolitan Gymnasium. Edberg beat American Derrick Rostagno for the 1991 Seiko Super title.

### S. African athletes to wear dove

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South African athletes will wear a dove symbol on their tracksuits at the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games in Barcelona, to demonstrate their commitment to peace and democracy, it was announced Monday. Sports officials said the National and Olympic Committee of South Africa had decided at the weekend athletes would be urged to wear the dove on a badge. They said the badge would not be compulsory and most athletes would probably not wear it while competing. The dove was an alternative to a proposal by sporting bodies and the African National Congress (ANC) that athletes wear black armbands to protest at mounting township violence. The breakdown of democracy talks between the ANC and the white government last month following a township massacre had threatened South Africa's return to the Olympics after a 32-year absence due to its apartheid policies.

### Lewis to continue after Barcelona

HAMBURG, Germany (R) — Sixth-times Olympic champion Carl Lewis plans to continue competing after this month's Olympics despite his disappointing form at the recent U.S. athletics trials. The 31-year-old sprinter, who managed to qualify for only the long jump in the U.S. Olympic team, denied suggestions that he might retire after the games in an interview with the German magazine Der Spiegel published Monday. "I'm going to compete for another year yet. I will retire when the moment comes when I run my best race and can't win anymore," Lewis was quoted as saying. The American's comments suggested he still plans to defend his 100 metres title at the World Championships in the German city of Stuttgart next year. Lewis said his failure to qualify for the sprints at the U.S. trials could have a positive side in Barcelona. "Ynn have to think positive. At least in Barcelona I will not be under the same sort of pressure as at the last Olympics," he said.

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♥ 7 2  
♦ 9 4  
♣ A Q 10 9 7 5 2

WEST EAST  
♥ K 10 4 3 ♠ A Q 3  
♦ Q 10 8 5 4 ♥ J 9 3  
♠ 5 3 ♦ J 10 6 7 6  
♣ K J ♠ 8 3

SOUTH  
♠ 9 7 5  
♥ A K 6  
♦ A K Q 2  
♣ 6 4

The bidding:  
North East South West  
3 ♠ Pass 3 NT Pass  
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Five of ♠  
If you treat everything you see at the bridge table with a dollop of skepticism, you will be on your way to becoming a good player. This hand is from a high-quality rubber bridge game played awhile ago.

At many bridges, the North hand is just about a minimum for a three-level preempt at favorable vulnerability. South might have tested the waters by bidding three diamonds first—any new suit over a preempt.

is a one-round force—intending to pass four clubs if partner could not do more. However, that precaution might be attributed to hindsight and we don't blame South for venturing three no trump.  
West led a low heart and declarer captured East's jack with the ace—a slight technical error. East would not have played the jack from K J, but might have from A J, so declarer was now marked with the king of hearts. Information West was quick to utilize. With only six fast tricks available, declarer had to go after the club suit, but when South led a low club, West purchased the king! If that was a singleton, declarer could not afford to win the trick, since East would then have a club stopper. Declarer viewed the monarch with great suspicion—South knew West was quite capable of playing the king from K x. After much thought, declarer decided to go with the ace and allow West to hold the trick, and hope the defenders could not rattle off four spade tricks.  
That proved fatal. Since a heart continuation was obviously futile, West shifted to a low spade, with dramatic results. The defenders collected four tricks in the suit for a one-trick set.

### Canadian sprinter suspended for life

TORONTO (R) — Canadian sprinter Cheryl Thibedeau has been suspended for life by Athletics Canada after testing positive for banned anabolic steroids in June. In a statement issued late Friday, Thibedeau, 26, said she is innocent and said the identifying number on the urine sample was different from the number on the paperwork filed with her urine samples. The sprinter, who failed to qualify for Canada's Barcelona Olympic team despite running in June her best time since 1987, said she has hired a lawyer to appeal the drug suspension.

## EXCELLENT JOB OPPORTUNITY

A multiproduct trading company which is part of a diversified group in Jordan requires to appoint:-

### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY (S)

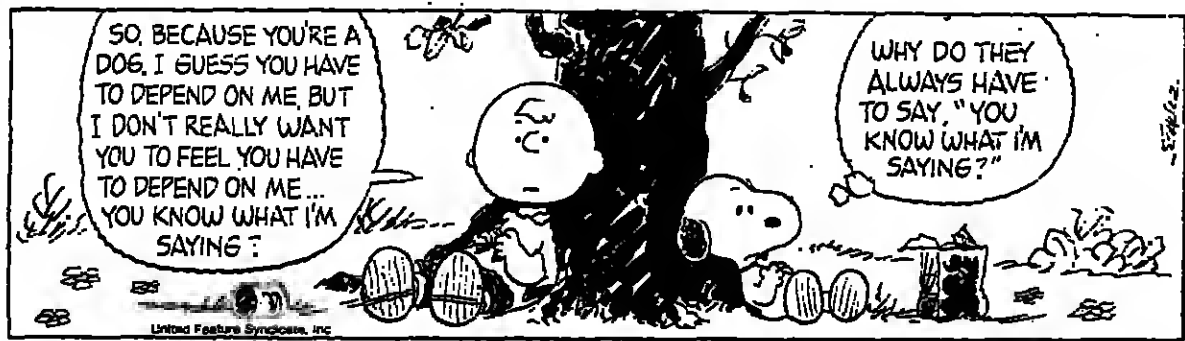
with the following qualifications:-

- ☆ Fluent in both Arabic and English, reading, writing and spoken.
- ☆ Typing, both in Arabic and English.
- ☆ Well acquainted in all other secretarial duties, especially shorthand, filing, and ability to use PC.
- ☆ Strong leadership and dynamic personality.
- ☆ Minimum experience of 3 years.
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Only qualified and interested applicants kindly requested to send their C.V. with a recent photo to:

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**P.O.Box 860**  
**Amman - Jordan**

## Peanuts



## Andy Capp



## Mutt'n'Jeff



## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY JULY 14, 1992

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** The Full Moon in Capricorn offers many opportunities to make many new contacts that can be long lasting as well as beneficial. Enjoy a special kind of entertainment with close friends. —

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) After a day when you decide upon the right avenues by which to express your special attitudes you are able to at once put them into detailed effectiveness.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) A new set of circumstances beneath your own roof would be a blessing now so think it out carefully and then share your family how well it will work for all.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) You can articulate your views either orally or on paper during the daytime and then be prepared to enjoy your evening at special pleasures at home.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Your vision for making more use of your practical capabilities to bring more abundance to yourself is now touched off to your advantage.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) You have real inspiration about some advanced concept that will catapult you forward so get started right away on the down to earth aspects needed for success.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Discuss early with your mate the personal extension of your

present goodwill and later you will be able to carry through with little trouble.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Take time out to consider what you can best do to please your pals and especially by bringing an influential person into your sphere of influence.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Be off early to let a powerful who can give you a boost upward of your special capabilities and then be off to enjoy practical minded friends.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) There is some new knowledge you can gain that will put you at the top of the heap where your own interests are concerned so look for it.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) The daytime brings a new chance for you to so arrange your affairs so that they work much more to your advantage, tonight finds ways to implement these methods.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Whatever you have in mind for extending your interests in the outside world is excellent doing today but in the evening do something of a practical nature.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) You can use to your advantage the advanced methods found applicable to your own type of activities and later will be able to get outside assistance.

## THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



## JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SYGGO

CONTH

GLEENT

RODIAH

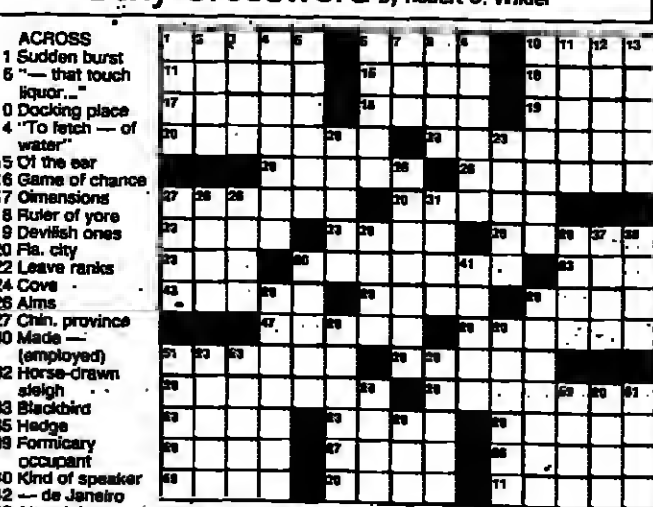
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: GET THE OF

Yesterday's Jumbles: LILAC FUSSY IMPAIR SPORTY

Answer: They make ghosts act strange—"SPIRITS".

## THE Daily Crossword by Robert O. Wilder



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:





Financial Jordan Times  
Markets by cooperation with  
Gulf American Bank  
S.S. Dollar in International Markets

## Foreign Exchange Market Summary (July 6- July 10, 1992)

AMMAN — The U.S. currency continued to lose ground against European currencies during the previous week, ending 1.5 per cent lower against the mark, but marginally higher against the yen. The G-7 summit ended Wednesday without touching on currency issues, but added to the uncertainty surrounding the immediate future of the dollar exchange rates due to the variety of views expressed by a number of the monetary authorities after the summit.

The dollar slipped in quiet trading Monday, while traders waited for glimpses over the likely outcome of the G-7 meetings held in Munich. Traders were encouraged to short their dollar positions after U.S. Treasury Undersecretary David Mallford implied the satisfaction of the U.S. administration over the down slide in the dollar.

Tuesday took the U.S. unit to its lowest levels of the week against the other major currencies, and to its lowest in 17 months against the mark. It ended 1.4903 marks, 124.85 yen and 19333 dollars to the pound. The drop materialised on reports that U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady declared that the dollar's slide below 1.50 marks did not concern the U.S. which did not even mind a further interest rate cut, should it prove necessary. Observers commented that the U.S. might have decided to adopt a "quick fix" solution to bring about economic recovery, in time for general elections, by boosting exports through a weak dollar.

The U.S. currency ended little changed Wednesday, after fluctuating between 1.4760 marks and 1.5010 marks. Traders were daunted by the rising uncertainty over the dollar's immediate future, which was being fueled by domestic politics as well as by economic considerations. Earlier in the day, Mr. Brady was reported again to have declared that the United States was not trying to lower the dollar. Observers, however, ruled out his new comments as a reaction after the effect his contradicting statement had the previous day.

The U.S. unit rallied Thursday on short covering, closing at its highest for the week at 1.5120 marks, 125.65 yen and 1.90 dollars to the pound. Traders were encouraged to cover their positions after the G-7 communiqué did not mention currency issues.

But the dollar took a reprieve at the end of the week, after the release of June's wholesale prices in the U.S. renewed fears over the prospects of a further dollar interest rate cut. The data indicated a rise in U.S. producer prices by a mere 0.2 per cent in June, while the core rate excluding food and energy actually dropped for the first time in five years by 0.1 per cent. The figures, thus again, were low enough to allow the Fed to lower interest rates if it wanted to, without having to worry over inflation levels. Dollar sentiment was further harmed by speculation that the Bundesbank might attempt to indirectly tighten monetary policy next week.

As for this week, market participants await the release of a number of U.S. economic statistical reports, while expectations pointed to a continued dollar slide.

### New York Closing Rates for Major Currencies Against the U.S. Dollar

| Currency       | 3/7/92 | 10/7/92 | Percent Change |
|----------------|--------|---------|----------------|
| Sterling Pound | 1.9085 | 1.9225  | -0.7%          |
| Deutsche Mark  | 1.5185 | 1.4945  | -1.61%         |
| Swiss Franc    | 1.3580 | 1.3530  | -0.37%         |
| French Franc   | 5.1105 | 5.0415  | -1.37%         |
| Japanese Yen   | 124.78 | 125.18  | -0.32%         |

### U.S. Dollar

| Currency       | 3/7/92 | 10/7/92 | Percent Change |
|----------------|--------|---------|----------------|
| U.S. Dollar    | 3.50   | 3.87    | 3.31           |
| Sterling Pound | 9.87   | 9.75    | 9.93           |
| Deutsche Mark  | 9.56   | 9.50    | 9.56           |
| Swiss Franc    | 8.87   | 8.68    | 8.62           |
| French Franc   | 9.96   | 9.88    | 9.96           |
| Japanese Yen   | 4.43   | 4.12    | 4.53           |

Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding 100,000 S.D. Dollars, 1,000,000 or equivalent.

### Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

| Currency       | Bid    | Offer  |
|----------------|--------|--------|
| U.S. Dollar    | .663   | .670   |
| Sterling Pound | 1.7823 | 1.2887 |
| Deutsche Mark  | .4463  | .4485  |
| Swiss Franc    | .4932  | .4957  |
| French Franc   | .1323  | .1330  |
| Japanese Yen   | .5328  | .5355  |
| Dutch Guilder  | .3957  | .3977  |
| Swedish Krona  | .1231  | .1237  |
| Italian Lira   | .0589  | .0592  |
| Belgian Franc  | .02161 | .02172 |

## British government admits no recovery before late 1992

LONDON (R) — The government has admitted that Britain's economy was still in recession and unlikely to turn towards recovery until late this year.

But senior cabinet minister Tony Newton, speaking for Prime Minister John Major, said conditions were right for an upturn.

"It is clear that the action the government has taken in recent months is creating a secure foundation for this country to emerge from recession in the latter part of this year," Mr. Newton told an angry session of parliament.

Mr. Major is facing restlessness among his colleagues concerned that after a year of promising recovery little has emerged.

Anti-European in his ruling Conservative Party blame high interest rates and the tying of the pound to the German mark for prolonging the longest downturn since World War II.

Former prime minister Margaret Thatcher, now Lady Thatcher, has also criticised her successor's handling of interest rates and economic policy and called for a revaluation of the pound.

She won strong backing from old allies in parliament. Several Conservative anti-European, monetarist debarred attacked finance ministers over the recession.

Conservative member of parliament Peter Tapsell accused Chancellor of the Exchequer Norman Lamont of becoming a "poodle to the German Bundesbank."

Another Conservative, Nicholas Winterbottom, painted a depressing picture of the economic outlook.

"The British economy is in a very serious state," he said. "Unemployment is likely to rocket through three million... unless the government reduces interest rates."

British bank base interest rates have fallen to 10 per cent from 15 per cent in the last 20 months but with year-on-year inflation holding at a stubborn 4.3 per cent, real interest rates are at an historic high forcing hundreds of businesses and homeowners to the wall.

Rates have been held artificially high by the pound sterling's membership of the European Community's Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM), a system of currency rate management dominated by the German mark and therefore making it extremely difficult for member countries to cut interest rates below German levels.

Facing a barrage of criticism, more from his own side than the opposition Labour Party, Mr. Lamont defended his policies and rejected the idea of realigning the ERM currencies to cut the value of sterling from its current level of 2.95 marks.

"There are no quick fixes," he said. Any belief a depreciation of sterling would boost competitiveness was "pure illusion, pure fool's gold."

Junior Treasury Minister Stephen Dorrell ruled out any realignment of the currency grid: "There is no realigning in prospect and we do not seek one."

Mr. Major said he expected growth of up to one per cent by the end of 1992 against the current Treasury forecast — expected to be sharply cut — of a full 1.0 per cent growth.

| AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET                                  |                |               |                 |
|---|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| HOUSING BANK CENTER AMMAN - SHMEISANI                   |                |               |                 |
| TELEPHONE: 660170 / 660170                              |                |               |                 |
| ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR SUNDAY 12/07/1992 |                |               |                 |
| COMPANY'S NAME  | TRADING        | PREV. CLOSING | OPENING CLOSING |
|   |                |               |                 |
| JORDAN FINANCIAL BANK                                   | 6,150          | 1,900         | 1,900           |
| THE HOUSING BANK  | 750            | 2,400         | 2,400           |
| UNION BANK FOR SAVING & INVESTMENT                      | 722            | 2,180         | 2,170           |
| JORDAN BANKING CORPORATION/JORDAN                       | 384            | 2,000         | 1,920           |
| JORDAN NATIONAL BANK                                    | 9,149          | 2,700         | 2,750           |
| JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK                        | 4,511          | 3,120         | 3,120           |
| JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT/OLD                          | 6,352          | 1,170         | 1,170           |
| JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT                              | 2,119          | 1,050         | 1,050           |
| JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT                              | 8,646          | 3,100         | 3,050           |
| NATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES                           | 2,225          | 2,150         | 2,100           |
| BUSINESS BANK   | 7,150          | 2,850         | 2,850           |
| ARAB BANK   | 9,440          | 118,000       | 118,000         |
| JORDAN PERCH INSURANCE                                  | 125            | 2,450         | 2,450           |
| JORDAN PERCH INSURANCE                                  | 10,400         | 2,450         | 2,450           |
| JORDAN LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE                        | 4,600          | 2,300         | 2,300           |
| JORDAN HOTEL & TOURISM                                  | 1,018          | 3,150         | 3,150           |
| JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER                                | 13,411         | 2,250         | 2,250           |
| LIVESTOCK & POULTRY                                     | 5,651          | 1,340         | 1,340           |
| UNITED HEDGE & A CONDO HOTEL                            | 52,365         | 1,560         | 1,570           |
| JORDAN MEDICAL CORPORATION                              | 1,120          | 0,280         | 0,280           |
| MACHINERY EQUIP. REPAIRING & MAINTENANCE                | 745            | 1,000         | 0,990           |
| PERCH ENTERPRISES & EQUIPMENT LEASING                   | 305            | 0,970         | 0,960           |
| JORDAN SELF REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT                      | 5,085          | 0,950         | 0,950           |
| ARAB PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING                         | 280            | 1,540         | 1,520           |
| JORDAN DAIRY  | 2,465          | 2,500         | 2,470           |
| THE PUBLIC MINTING                                      | 940            | 2,350         | 2,350           |
| ARAB ALUMINIUM INDUSTRY                                 | 34,985         | 7,820         | 7,870           |
| ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING                       | 222,074        | 10,100        | 10,100          |
| THE INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL                | 7,131          | 5,850         | 5,790           |
| ARAB CHEMICAL DETENTERS INDUSTRIES                      | 3,160          | 21,550        | 21,100          |
| NATIONAL STEEL INDUSTRIES                               | 43,158         | 4,620         | 4,550           |
| DAY AL DAMA DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT                    | 20,475         | 6,500         | 6,500           |
| INTERMEDIATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES                  | 39,542         | 3,600         | 3,770           |
| JORDAN CERAMIC INDUSTRIES                               | 33,689         | 4,750         | 4,750           |
| JORDAN GLASS INDUSTRIES                                 | 4,699          | 0,770         | 0,780           |
| JORDAN PAPER & CARD BOARD FACTORIES                     | 26,250         | 5,200         | 5,250           |
| THE JORDAN PAPER MANUFACTURING                          | 526            | 2,500         | 2,630           |
| ARAB CENTER FOR PHARM. & CHEMICALS                      | 69,655         | 1,050         | 1,040           |
| NATIONAL INDUSTRIES                                     | 600            | 0,600         | 0,600           |
| JORDAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES                              | 2,730          | 4,200         | 4,200           |
| INTERMEDIATE CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES                        | 4,025          | 13,500        | 13,450          |
| JORDAN INDUSTRIES & MACHINERY                           | 1,881          | 1,150         | 1,140           |
| SPINNING & WEAVING                                      | 23,573         | 3,130         | 3,130           |
| NATIONAL CABLE & WIRE MANUFACTURING                     | 4,215          | 7,000         | 6,950           |
| JORDAN SULPHON-CHEMICALS                                | 11,693         | 3,520         | 3,500           |
| THE JORDAN CEMENT FACTORIES                             | 25,313         | 3,850         | 3,840           |
| JORDAN REFINING INDUSTRIES                              | 3,780          | 1,900         | 1,800           |
| JORDAN PRECAST CONCRETE INDUSTRIES                      | 16,880         | 0,580         | 0,570           |
| UNIVERSAL MODERN INDUSTRIES                             | 72,725         | 5,170         | 5,180           |
| ARAB INVESTMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE                   | 14,662         | 2,300         | 2,170           |
| JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINERY                               | 15,139         | 8,440         | 8,460           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>873,912</b> |               |                 |

NO. OF TRADED SHARES IN PARALLEL MARKET 700

TRADING VOLUME IN THE PARALLEL MARKET 1343

## 'The recession is over'

# Jordan economy set to grow



Safwan Bataineh

Kuwait which closed its major markets.

The Gulf crisis, during which Jordanians angered wealthy Arab trade partners by sympathising

AMMAN (R) — Jordan's economy, fuelled partly by a post-Gulf war construction boom, has come out of an eight-year recession and is set to show greater growth this year than forecast, a government official said.

"The recession is over and we're going to see some more pickup in the economy this year," Safwan Bataineh, economic advisor to Prime Minister Zeid Ben Shaker, said in an interview Saturday.

He said gross domestic product, which last year reversed previous declines to show one per cent real growth, is expected to increase substantially more in 1992 than the three per cent forecast by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Jordan had been just beginning to recover from an economic crisis which led to a sharp devaluation in the dinar when it was hit by Iraq's 1990 invasion of

with Baghdad, closed Jordan's biggest markets and ravaged most sectors of the economy.

An estimated 300,000 Jordanian citizens forced to return from the Gulf following the Iraqi invasion have been a mixed blessing. The 10 per cent rise in population has strained government services but also swelled foreign exchange reserves, increased demand for goods and sparked a building boom.

"This is not exactly the scenario for sustainable growth but we can say that the recession is over," Mr. Bataineh, a former investment banker, told Reuters.

"One big sector more or less carrying the economy is construction," he said, adding that the industry would report much higher 1992 growth than 1991's eight per cent increase.

In an indication of confidence in the economy, borrowing by the industrial manufacturing sector increased by 14 per cent from the

beginning of January to end-March 1992 — the highest three-month increase on record, he said.

Other indicators of recovery included higher retail sales, increased imports of luxury items, more tourist revenue and a rebound in the Amman stock market. Figures show both exports and industrial production have recovered to pre-Gulf war levels.

Longer-term worries remain. Jordan is carrying out an IMF-directed adjustment programme to help address large balance of payment and budget deficit and a \$7.2 billion foreign debt.

"I think the key issue here is exports — if they pick up substantially then we have a sustainable recovery," Mr. Bataineh said.

Jordan lost major Gulf markets after relations soured with Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. U.N. sanctions against Baghdad have cut off large-scale exports of oil but food and medicine to Iraq.

## Clinton needs to convince Americans of his 'third way' economic policy

NEW YORK (R) — Unemployment at an eight-year high, plummeting popularity ratings for President Bush, a scary domestic economy: What more could a Democratic presidential hopeful want?

First off, a lot of believers.

Voters by a wide margin think Mr. Bush has ignored the broken, stalled economy. But as Mr. Clinton steps up to the podium at the Democratic convention this week he needs to convince Americans that he has the tools to fix it.

Mike McCurry, a Democratic strategist, says Mr. Clinton most of all needs to build confidence, installing hope that the Democrats can turn the economy around.

After 12 years of hands-off Republican policies, it remains an open question whether voters will back Mr. Clinton's call for more government intervention in the economy — a policy that echoes Democratic programmes of the past.

"It's all a very iffy and open question," said Paul Grogan, president of the local Initiatives Support Corp., a nonprofit group that aids inner city development. "The great success of Reagan was instilling the mythology that minimal policy is what works."

In the latest polls, Mr. Clinton is running a dead-heat with Mr. Bush and undeclared candidate Ross Perot, though analysts expect him to come out ahead after the convention.

Polls show Americans are fed

up with the president's stewardship of the economy and voters have often thrown out an incumbent if the unemployment rate is rising. They also want more direction and leadership on the economy.

The government recently reported the June jobless rate jumped to 7.9 per cent — an eight year high.

"Clinton's programme has an opportunity to get a serious hearing because of the widespread concern about the economy and the general sense that we are drifting," Mr. Grogan said.

Self-consciously distancing himself from liberalism, Mr. Clinton talks about public-private partnerships, government investment that will create private-sector jobs, entrepreneurs and officials working together.

Mr. Clinton calls this "the third way," something in between big government policies the Democrats have promoted in the past and the "neglect" of the Reagan and Bush years.

"We reject both the do-nothing government of the past 12 years as well as the big government theory that says we can hamstring business and tax and spend our way into prosperity," the Democrats write in their platform.

"People definitely don't want big government," said McCurry. "But they like the Democratic message that they will help the little guy."

Mr. Clinton wants to tax the rich, offer a middle-income tax cut and spend \$220 billion to

pump up the economy. He has also proposed cutting 100,000 jobs from the federal bureaucracy.

Conservatives don't buy the talk they think the Clinton plan is dressed-up, tax-and-spend policy.

"In rhetoric it's different, but in fundamentals it's the same," said Edward Hudgins, deputy director for economic policy studies at the conservative Heritage Foundation.

"At the core, what he is talking about is raising taxes — looting the rich and giving to the poor that is a hallmark of the Democrats," Mr. Hudgins says. "And this spending idea, euphemistically called investing, will cost the government hundreds of billions of dollars."

The Republicans have tried to paint Mr. Clinton's platform as an economic pipe dream, but the most recent bashing by Vice President Dan Quayle in Mr. Clinton's hometown of Little Rock, Arkansas fell on deaf ears because of the jobless news.

Mr. Clinton shot back at his

opponents: "We can't afford a president who is willing to do anything to keep his job, but nothing to help average, hard-working Americans keep theirs."

The feeble U.S. recovery lost whatever strength it had in June, posing awkward questions about the direction of the economy and President Bush's political future.

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"NO INTERMEDIARIES PLEASE"

For more information please contact telephone numbers 814850, 823439

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Ground floor, with small garden, consists of one bedroom, salon, dining room, central heating and utilities. Location: Shmeisani - Abu Sufian St. behind the Marriott Hotel-near Sipal Flower Shop.

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In Shmeisani, 3 bedrooms, L-shaped reception/dining room, with own phone, central heating, parking and central antenna.

Call tel. 665213, 8 a.m.-8p.m.

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Contract to start October 1st.

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MATT DILLON...IN

A KISS BEFORE DYING

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Watch for... the permanent

**Nabeel and Hisham Theatre**

In

**Ahlan New World Order**

as of July 15, 1992

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**Furnished and Unfurnished**

Good location, Jabal Alweibdeh, facing Jabal Amman. Central heating.

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## Monarchists urge talks on Cambodian elections

PHNOM PENH (R) — Cambodia's monarchist faction has called for discussions on voting eligibility for next year's United Nations-organised elections.

A statement released by the Sihanoukist faction led by Prince Norodom Ranariddh called for discussions to determine "what a Cambodian?"

"As to the criteria on how one determines what is a Cambodian, FUNCINPEC believes it is a technical question and could be discussed further," the statement said.

FUNCINPEC, a French acronym for National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia, made the call following a meeting between Prince Ranariddh and a group of Cambodian students at which concern was expressed over the number of Vietnamese settlers living in the country.

"The students expressed their deep concerns about the Vietnamese settlers in Cambodia and that their large presence in the country may alter the results of the next election and they also raised the issue of security in the country," Prince Ranariddh, the son of former state Prince Norodom Sihanouk, said.

Under the terms of the Paris peace agreement signed last October by all four factions, the United Nations will largely administer Cambodia up until the holding of free and fair elections, scheduled for May, 1993.

The three factions that fought the Phnom Penh government for 13 years, FUNCINPEC, the Maoist Khmer Rouge and the non-Communist Khmer People's National Liberation Front, have all expressed concern about the number of Vietnamese living in Cambodia.

The Khmer Rouge have re-

fused to join the disarmament phase of the U.N. peace plan because they say there are still many Vietnamese troops in Cambodia, a charge Vietnam denies. The U.N. says there is no evidence of Vietnam's presence.

Age-old antipathy between Vietnamese and Cambodians is fertile ground for rabble-rousing.

With the arrival of thousands of U.N. peacekeepers, the country's capital, Phnom Penh, is undergoing economic boom times and ambitious Vietnamese workers have been quick to take advantage of employment opportunities for construction, electrical and mechanical jobs.

Noted American Cambodia scholar Michael Vickery estimates the size of the Vietnamese community at 300,000 people, many of whom are from families that have lived in the country for decades.

Hundreds of Vietnamese prostitutes ply their trade in outdoor beer bars, coffee shops and "dancing restaurants" in Phnom Penh.

Despite Hanoi's role in ridding Cambodia of the tyrannical Khmer Rouge regime, which cost a million Cambodians their lives, Vietnamese-Cambodian relations are at best tense.

Cambodians are quick to recall Vietnamese encroachment of areas once part of Cambodia, particularly the rice-rich Mekong Delta, which Cambodians call Khmer Khrom.

Under the U.S.-backed Lon Nol regime of the early 1970s, the government mounted several bloody programs against Vietnamese immigrants.

The head of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), Japanese diplomat Yasushi Akashi, has warned all four factions not to engage in racist attacks against ethnic

minorities.

Meanwhile United Nations peacekeepers have told radical Khmer Rouge guerrillas to stop firing on U.N. helicopters after two were attacked over a guerrilla-held zone in western Cambodia, a U.N. spokesman said.

The helicopters, flying together on a resupply mission, came under small weapons fire Thursday not far from Pailin, the Khmer Rouge headquarters in Battambang province bordering Thailand, said U.N. spokesman Eric Falt. One helicopter was hit, but there were no casualties or significant damage.

The U.N. military observer team in the area sent a letter to a senior Khmer Rouge officer urging a halt to such attacks, Mr. Falt told reporters Saturday night.

Attacks on U.N. helicopters have increased sharply while the Khmer Rouge, violating a peace accord it had signed, has refused to join other Cambodian factions in sending combatants to U.N.-supervised barracks so elections can be held safely next year.

There have been reports, considered credible by some sources who demanded anonymity, that the Khmer Rouge has offered \$3,500 to anyone who shoots down a U.N. helicopter.

Late last month, four U.N. helicopters were fired upon during the same week and a Russian co-pilot slightly injured. Some of the attacks were over areas in the country's north contested by the Khmer Rouge and the government, but U.N. officials have not publicly blamed any group.

U.N. helicopters are painted white and clearly marked "U.N." in black. The United Nations will equip all helicopter crew and passengers with flak jackets, Mr. Falt said Saturday.

## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### Truce holds in Moldova

MOSCOW (AP) — A ceasefire in the Trans-Dniester region of Moldova held, with only minor skirmishes reported between Moldovan loyalists and Slav separatists. A Moldovan spokesman said separatists in the town of Bender opened fire at Moldovan police posts for about an hour, using grenade launchers and guns. They also attempted to capture Moldovan positions at a movie house and a school, but the attacks were repulsed, the ITAR-TASS News Agency reported. There were no reports of casualties. But the Moldovan Defence Ministry spokesman said two children died and two were injured when they tried to dismantle an unexploded shell in a forest near the village of Khyrovets. On Tuesday representatives of Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Moldovan President Mircea Snegur worked out a ceasefire between the two sides. More than 600 people have been killed since the fighting had begun since March.

### Pope goes to hospital for checkup

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II said Sunday he was going to a Rome hospital later in the day for diagnostic tests, and his spokesman said the Pope was suffering from an "intestinal dysfunction" that might require surgery. Pope John Paul, 72, made the announcement as he read a written statement after his weekly noon Angelus prayer to the faithful in St. Peter's Square. "I would like to tell you something confidentially. This evening I'm going to Gemelli Clinic for some diagnostic tests. I ask your prayers so that the lord is near to me with his help and with his support," the Pope told the crowd. His spokesman, Joaquín Navarro, immediately called a news conference after the Pope's announcement to say the Pope had been suffering for some days from an "intestinal dysfunction" and had a "modest" amount of pain.

### 5 dead in Singapore tanker blaze

SINGAPORE (R) — At least five people were killed and more than 50 injured when an explosion shook a Panamanian-registered chemical tanker Sunday, police said. About 200 people were carrying out repair works aboard the tanker, Stolt Spur Monrovia, at Sembawang Shipyard in northern Singapore when fire broke out near the engine room, causing an explosion, a police officer said. The injured were taken to three hospitals where doctors said the death toll could rise as some were in serious condition. The fire had been put out but police were still searching for more casualties on board the tanker, in Singapore for general repairs since last Friday.

### Japanese emperor to visit China

TOKYO (R) — The Japanese government has decided to send Emperor Akihito to China in late October to mark the 20th anniversary of the establishment of Sino-Japanese ties, Kyodo News Agency reported Sunday. Without any attribution, Kyodo said the emperor was expected to visit China for about six days shortly after Empress Michiko's birthday on Oct. 20. Peking has invited the emperor on several occasions but the Japanese government has said only it would give the matter "serious consideration." Some leaders of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) fear Emperor Akihito would face criticism in Peking over the brutal actions of the imperial Japanese army in China in the 1930s and 1940s, notably in Nanjing (Nanking) where soldiers slaughtered many thousands of civilians, mostly women and children. Many LDP lawmakers are said to be concerned that an imperial trip might encourage China's parliament to demand \$180 million in reparations for civilian losses during Japanese occupation of vast areas of northern and eastern China.

### Quake rattles southern California

LOS ANGELES (R) — A strong earthquake rumbled through southern California causing at least one minor injury but no reported damage, authorities said. The National Earthquake Information Centre said the earthquake registered 5.1 on the Richter Scale and hit about 11:15 a.m. (1815 GMT). It was about 75 miles (120 kilometres) north of Los Angeles near the desert town of Mojave. It was felt across large parts of Los Angeles, shaking tall buildings in the city centre. Some residents reported feeling two jolts about a half-minute apart. A man in the Los Angeles suburb of Norwalk was injured when he fell on a rain-slick sidewalk as the quake rattled the area, a Fire Department spokesman said. There were no immediate reports of damage. The quake came 13 days after powerful twin quakes, measuring 7.4 and 6.5, struck east of Los Angeles, killing a child, injuring more than 300 people and causing an estimated \$92 million in damage.

## Latvia says fires raging near Soviet army bases

MOSCOW (R) — Latvia's defence minister Sunday said fires were raging near former Soviet army bases in the Baltic republic and it was conceivable that nuclear warheads could be under threat.

"The most dangerous fires are those blazing near military areas," Latvian Junzis told Reuters by telephone from the Latvian capital Riga.

"And since we have no information about the Russian Armed Forces' munitions, we cannot exclude the possibility that there are nuclear weapons on these bases."

Defence chiefs in Moscow have never officially said that nuclear warheads have been withdrawn from the three newly-independent Baltic republics, though General Valery Mironov, commander of ex-Soviet forces in the region, told Reuters in Latvia in March "there are no nuclear weapons in the Baltics."

The biggest blazes were in forests near the former Soviet army base at Adazi, not far from Riga.

"Another fire is raging 30 kilometres from the ammunition dump at Teskuli, which according to our assessments is the same size as the one in Vladivostok," he said.

In May fire ripped through a huge ammunition dump in the Far Eastern city, forcing 6,000 people to be evacuated and sending debris from exploding shells shooting across the city.

Mr. Junzis, a member of a special commission set up to deal with the blazes, complained that Russian Armed Forces were not doing much to help put out the fires.

Ake Grommark, the Helsinki deputy fire chief, told a news conference in the Finnish capital that he was sending experts to study the situation and then recommend possible assistance.

"We have heard that there is a nuclear installation in the area but we have no official information about that," he said.

The extent of the damage from the fires was not clear and he was awaiting a report from his team, sent in response to a Latvian request. Denmark had also been approached for help.

The Finnish News Agency earlier said there were five different fires in an area of some 200 hectares (500 acres) between Riga and the town of Jurmala.

The three Baltic republics, backed by Western leaders, also want Russia to get a time-table for the quick withdrawal of its 130,000 troops.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin pledged last week that the troops would be withdrawn but said Moscow could not yet give a deadline due to the enormous problem of housing troops repatriated from Germany and the Baltics.

The West assumes nuclear weapons from the former Soviet Union's massive arsenal are now located only in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan.

But Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania say military authorities in Moscow have consistently refused to tell them whether there are nuclear warheads on their territories.

A senior Estonian Foreign Ministry official said last December he had information there were still nuclear weapons in the three republics, which gained independence last year in the wake of a failed coup bid in August.

Strategic nuclear forces are under Commonwealth command while Russia controls former Soviet army bases.

No one was available at either the Commonwealth or Russian defence ministries for comment.

Mr. Junzis said some 30 fires, sparked by six weeks of hot dry weather, were raging across the

## Thai ex-premier to lead party in September polls

BANGKOK (R) — Thailand's last democratically-elected prime minister formally re-entered politics Sunday, effectively forming a new party that immediately lured dozens of leading politicians away from a disgraced pro-army coalition.

"I decided to return to politics because I want to create a new home for new generations of people," Chatchai Choonavan said as he launched the Chai Pattana Party (National Development) at a packed hotel conference room.

Mr. Chatchai said time did not allow him to register a new party ahead of the Sept. 13 elections so he accepted the invitation of the minor Puangchon Chaothai Party (Thai Masses) to become its leader.

He renamed the party which under its old banner sent only one

deputy to parliament after a general election on March 22.

Mr. Chatchai gained an executive board and an advisory council that included former members of parliament from the Samakkhi Tham (Justice and Unity) and Chai Thai (Thai Nation) parties.

Chai Pattana sources said more than 100 former deputies had expressed interest in joining the party.

Samakkhi Tham, which has been renamed Seri Tham (Justice and Freedom), and Chai Thai were the two largest parties in the pro-military coalition that made General Suchinda Kraprayoon prime minister.

Gen. Suchinda was not a member of parliament and street demonstrations against his appointment led to the military crackdown on democracy campaigners.

## South African bosses act to defuse crisis

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Business bosses, fearing South Africa's democracy deadlock will bring social and economic disaster, said Sunday they would press political leaders to resume negotiations.

"We're seeking imaginative ways of getting the talks back on track," said Johan Liebenberg, vice-chairman of the South African Coordinating Committee on Labour Affairs (SACCOLA).

SACCOLA, which groups major employers including the chamber of mines, met the highest labour federation, the South African Congress of Trade Unions (COSATU), last week to discuss ways of halting the country's slide into chaos.

"We'd like to avert the national strike on Aug. 3," Mr. Liebenberg said. "We might do something else instead, like hold joint peace and democracy rallies."

"The employers are in this initiative on a non-party political basis — we will be pushing politicians from all sides to get back to talks."

"We've got to do something," Mr. Liebenberg said. "Our economy cannot take any more hammering."

COSATU, in alliance with the African National Congress and the Communist Party, has called the general strike next month as part of a campaign to force President F.W. Klerk from power.

Nelson Mandela's ANC broke talks on a non-racial constitution with Mr. De Klerk and other parties last month after the Boipatong massacre, saying the government was responsible for township violence and was refusing to yield power.

The Sunday Times of Johannesburg published what it said were the minutes of an opposition alliance meeting which called for the August strike to last seven days. Alliance spokesmen could not be contacted immediately for comment.

In other labour unrest, a union representing hospital workers threatened Saturday to paralyse the administrations of two provinces, Transvaal and the Orange Free State, because of the sacking of about 7,000 striking workers.

The union said that if the workers were not reinstated by July 17, protesters would occupy administration buildings.

Peter Wrighton, a chairman of one of South Africa's biggest corporations, Premier Group, said there was deep concern about escalating violence, the negotiations deadlock and the possible repercussions of mass protests.

"Business has a crucial role to play in supporting the process of establishing a non-racial democracy through negotiations," Mr. Wrighton wrote in the Sunday Times.

## Albanians raise fears of fresh exodus attempts

TIRANA (R) — Thousands of Albanians, struggling with economic hardship at home, are desperately seeking to flee the country in search of jobs, stocking fears of a repeat of last year's mass exodus to Italy and Greece.

Police foiled attempts by thousands of would-be refugees to storm the western port of Durres last Monday in a bid to commandeer ships out of the country.

"The reason is poverty," President Sali Berisha told reporters Sunday. "Albanians earn in a year the same as Europeans get in one day."

The Durres incident reawakened memories — and fears — of similar scenes last summer, when some 20,000 Albanians stormed ships and forced their crews to take them to Italy. Thousands also crossed the southern border into Greece.

Most were forcibly repatriated after a brief stay.

Greek officials say several hundred Albanians have sneaked over the border in recent weeks and both Rome and Athens say they fear another mass exodus attempt.

"I am convinced that what happened last August could happen again at any time," said Raffaele Belardi, president of the Civil Protection Committee for Italy's Puglia region opposite Albania, earlier this month.

While Albanians who tried to flee last year were leaving a country still dominated by Communists, the country is now ruled by its first non-Communist government in nearly half a century.

But the three-month-old government, struggling to introduce urgently-needed economic reforms, is also having problems persuading people to stay and ride out the hardship.

The government has pledged to stop exodus attempts and restore law and order, warning that anyone who tried to destabilise the country would be severely punished.

"Despite the disappointment and suffering of those who fled the country months before, the wish to leave is predominant among the rest," Rilindja Demokratike, the mouthpiece of the Democratic Party, said last week.

Minister of Economy and Finance Genc Ruli described the economic situation as "tragic".

He said the country's gross national product is expected to drop by a further 25 per cent compared to last year. Agricultural production is so low that the country depends almost entirely on foreign food aid.

## Goebbels said Hitler was ready for war in 1938

LONDON (R) — Adolf Hitler was ready and eager to go to war in the summer of 1938, a year before World War II was actually declared, Britain's Sunday Times newspaper said.

It quoted extracts from what it said were the diaries of Hitler's chief propagandist, Joseph Goebbels.

A complete set of the diaries, copied on to glass photographic plates, had been found in archives in Moscow where they had lain apparently unnoticed for 47 years.

The Sunday Times said the diaries showed Hitler played a "cynical, cold-blooded poker game" with Britain up to the last minutes of peace before Poland was invaded in 1939.

Describing negotiations between Hitler and British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain in September 1938, Goebbels declared:

"At the worst we have a much better military position. London has the greatest fear of a world war. The Fuehrer declared sharply he would not shy away from it if necessary."

Goebbels wrote how he and Hitler then watched a "funny old film" because the Nazi leader must "preserve his nerves."

Later the two men discussed military matters again. "Our mobilisation continues according to plan," Goebbels noted.

At the end of the month, Lord Chamberlain and Hitler signed a friendship agreement.

Goebbels commented: "The world peace is on everybody's lips... Germany's prestige has risen enormously."

"Now we are once again a world power. The slogan from now on is: Re-arm, re-arm, re-arm. This has been a victory of pressure, nerves and the media."

The Sunday Times caused a furor by using controversial right-wing British historian David Irving to transcribe the diaries.

The newspaper, however, also hired Norman Stone, professor of modern history at Oxford University, to vet the material.

He said: "This diary is an important document — in almost all likelihood the last seriously important document to come out of the Third Reich."

The Sunday Times was upstaged last week when the tabloid Daily Mail printed extracts from the diaries it had obtained from the Munich Institute of Contemporary History, which it said had got the diaries two years ago from east Germany.

## Clinton gets boost on eve of convention

NEW YORK (R) — Bill Clinton's presidential fortunes rose sharply Sunday from a string of political wins that put him at the head of the pack on the eve of the convention that formally makes him the Democrat's candidate.

Riding a wave of good news that has made the last few days one of the best periods of his campaign, Mr. Clinton swept into New York for the July 13-16 convention in confident mood.

"There is a team, there is a party, there is an approach to bring this country back," Mr. Clinton said.

In just 24 hours Mr. Clinton patched up relations enough with Jesse Jackson to win the black leader's endorsement, saw underdog independent candidate Ross Perot stumble and learned that opinion polls for the first time showed him at least level with Republican President George Bush and Mr. Perot.

A Time-CNN poll and a Newsweek poll showed Mr. Clinton gaining strength and Texas billionaire Perot losing ground.

Both polls put Mr. Clinton, Mr. Perot and President George Bush in a statistical dead heat, in the race for the White House.

The Time-CNN poll also showed a sharp rise in Mr. Clinton's favourable rating indicating he might finally be overcoming allegations of extramarital affairs, minor experiments with marijuana and Vietnam War draft-dodging that stalled his campaign until now.

Mr. Clinton has strongly denied any wrongdoing in all the allegations of scandal.

The Democrats, who often have the misfortune of appearing in disarray at their national conventions, were ensured of a nearly united meeting by Rev. Jackson's late endorsement.

Rev. Jackson, a two-time Democratic presidential conten-

der who decided against running this year, had until now pointedly sidestepped repeated opportunities to endorse Mr. Clinton.

He was worried that Mr. Clinton and his vice-presidential running mate, Senator Albert Gore of Tennessee — both young, moderate southerners — were too alike and might turn their backs on the poor and the cities.

Rev. Jackson is to address the convention of 5,000 delegates from all over the United States Tuesday while Mr. Clinton will be nominated for president Wednesday and Sen. Gore for vice president Thursday.

Rev. Jackson's late endorsement ensured a triumphant return for Mr. Clinton to New York, a city which gave him the roughest ride of his primary campaign.

Mr. Clinton won New York's primary but it was in the run-up to the New York vote that rival Jerry Brown dubbed the Arkansas governor "the prince of sleaze."

It was also in New York that Mr. Clinton first acknowledged that he had experimented with marijuana — but not inhaled — while a Rhodes scholar at Oxford more than two decades ago.

Mr. Brown, Mr. Clinton's last obstacle to a blissful convention with no intra-party strife, has refused to endorse Mr. Clinton.

"To endorse, to not endorse — there's a third way, and that's to make the candidate better and the party better," Mr. Brown told reporters, promising "a lot of fun" at the convention for his supporters.

Mr. Brown said he will lobby convention delegates to consider an alternative to the party platform which he calls the "humility agenda." His programme calls for a rollback of White House and congressional pay raises, congressional term limits and a \$100 limit

on campaign contributions.

"We want to see this Democratic Party get back to its roots," Mr. Brown told a news conference at New York's Pennsylvania Station, which is beneath Madison Square Garden, the convention site.

The Democrats have mixed memories of conventions at the site. In 1976 Jimmy Carter went on to win the White House but then lost it in 1980 to Ronald Reagan.

Candidates hope to come away from nominating conventions with the momentum needed to give them a head start in the final campaign race to the Nov. 3 election.

After this week's series of political wins Mr. Clinton seemed poised for just such a flying start.

During the week there was bad news about President Bush's handling of the economy involving high unemployment figures; nearly unanimous editorial praise for Mr. Clinton's choice of Sen. Gore as his running mate, Rev. Jackson's last-minute endorsement and Mr. Perot's faltering because of what was perceived as paternalistic remarks he made to blacks about blacks.

During a speech to the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP) Saturday, Perot was heckled for referring to blacks as "you people."

Mr. Perot said afterward that if he upset anyone, "then I'm sorry," and he repeated the apology later in a telephone interview broadcast on Cable News Network. "It never occurred to me that they would be offended and if I offended anybody in any way I certainly apologise," Mr. Perot said.

Speaking to the civil rights group, Mr. Perot recounted his family's ties to blacks in Texas, Texas, recited his hope to

make America's "melting-pot" diversity a strength, and offered his standard anti-crime, "clean-up-the-economy" speech.

"Financially at least, it's going to be a long, hot summer," Mr. Perot told the group. "Now I don't have to tell you who gets hurt first when this sort of thing happens, do I?"

"You people do, your people do, I know that, you know that."

Someone in the audience yelled at Mr. Perot to protest the "you people" term, but Mr. Perot didn't hear. Two men yelled again, one saying "correct it," and Mr. Perot, appearing again to not hear, said simply, "thank you, sir."

Perot left the NAACP's convention immediately after the speech, but was asked later if he was aware that he had offended some people.

"If I did, then I'm sorry," Mr. Perot said.

As word of the incident was broadcast, CNN reported that Mr. Perot had telephoned anchorman Bernard Shaw, who is black, to say again that he was sorry if he offended anyone. The network said Mr. Perot told Mr. Shaw perhaps he should have said "our people" in his NAACP remarks. His second telephone conversation with the network was carried on the air five.

**Mandela to attend convention**

Meanwhile a Democratic Party official said Saturday, anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela will attend the Democratic national convention Wednesday as a guest of Chairman Ron Brown.

"He's coming to the convention Wednesday evening as a guest of Chairman Brown," National Democratic Party spokeswoman Ginny Terzano told Reuters.

## COLUMN

### Domingo falls during Tosca

ROME (R) — An estimated television audience of over one billion people saw Spanish tenor Plácido Domingo take a tumble Saturday during the first part of this weekend's live broadcast from Rome of Puccini's opera Tosca. Domingo hurt his knee as he fell while stepping down from a platform in the Church of Sant' Andrea Della Valle. Viewers saw him scramble to his feet after a lapse of just a few seconds which will be edited out of the taped version to be shown Sunday evening.

### Turtle refloated after surgery to fix skull

NICOSIA (AP) — A large female loggerhead turtle was returned to the sea after neurosurgeons at a local hospital fixed her smashed skull. The 15-kilo (33-pound), one-metre (three-foot) long turtle was found washed up near death with a smashed skull on a rocky beach in west Cyprus earlier in the week. Officials at the nearby government Turtle Conservation Centre and hatchery rushed her to the Nicosia General Hospital, two hours' drive away, where a team of neurosurgeons performed a delicate operation to save her life. Surgeon Nicos Spanos said the turtle's skull had clearly been smashed from a blow. "Fortunately the brain was undamaged, so we fixed the skull with a piece of acrylic plastic," he added. Dr. Spanos, who had carried out a similar operation two years ago, estimated that his latest patient was about 10 years old. "We expect she will live a normal life," he said. Following surgery the turtle recuperated for two days in a filled bathtub at the office of the government Fisheries Department in Nicosia. She was taken back to the west coast port of Paphos and placed in a turtle pen there pending her release on full recovery. The pen in the harbour is part of a project carried out at the nearby Lara Government Turtle Centre.

### Princess Diana's sister-in-law has twins

LONDON (AP) — Princess Diana's sister-in-law has given birth to twin girls, the father announced Saturday. Eliza Victoria and Katya Amelia were delivered Friday, said Lord Spencer, the princess' brother. "Both girls and mother are doing fine," he added. Lord Spencer, known as Charles Althorp before inheriting the title, married the former Victoria Lockwood in September 1989. They also have a one-year-old daughter, Kitty.

### 2 million watch tall ships enter Boston Harbour

BOSTON (AP) — Led by the USS Constitution, more than 200 sailing ships from 30 countries glided in Boston harbour as an estimated 2 million people watched. The grand parade of sail was the highlight of six days of Sail Boston 1992 festivities, part of an international regatta marking the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' voyage of the new world. "It just puts a lump in your throat, I cry," said Rhoda Silverman, 72, of Foxboro, who watched from the city's Marine Industrial Park. "I hope it's not a passing era. I hope they're here for our kids and grandchildren, too."

The ships in the parade, billed as the largest assemblage of ocean-going sailing ships in New England history, including 26 of the regal "Class A" tall ships measuring from 170 to 385 feet in length.

### 'Feeding monkeys' is dangerous

HONG KONG (R) — The Hong Kong government launched a campaign to stop people from feeding monkeys in case they attack children. The Agricultural and Fisheries Department has set up anti-feeding exhibits and signboards in the Kowloon Hills, where monkeys that roam wild can gorge themselves on peanuts, sweets and prawn crackers offered by weekend visitors.

"The feeding of monkey's in the Kowloon Hills by visitors in recent years have made the animals lose their fear of human beings, and caused them to become more aggressive," said Martin Leung, an Agricultural and Fisheries Department spokesman. "When monkeys get aggressive, it is often small children who are likely to be threatened or attacked," he said. He added that the government might introduce laws banning the feeding of monkeys if the education campaign failed.

Chen 350